

BAY AREA REPORTER

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SFPD To Slash Awareness Course

One Week Minority Sensitivity Program Cut To Day Tour With Tamale Lunch

by Will Snyder

The community awareness training program for San Francisco police academy cadets has suffered a major cutback. What used to be a week-long series of tours, lectures and personal insights into the varied minority communities of San Francisco has been reduced to what amounts to nothing more than a city-sponsored version of a Grayline bus tour.

Efforts to initiate an eight-hour training tour, proposed to replace the former 42-hour program, are being fought by Sup. Bill Maher. Maher said he has talked to San Francisco police chief Frank Jordan. "There will definitely be a change in the policy regarding the cutback. We will go back to the former (42-hour) program, period," he said.

"The chief was not aware of the cutbacks in the program," added Maher, "but we will definitely be training police officers in the needs of the gay community."

As Bay Area Reporter went to press, neither Jordan nor deputy chief Will Casey could be reached for comment.

The 42-hour community awareness program had given future police officers a chance to hear guest lecturers from the lesbian/gay, Latino, black, Japanese and Chinese communities. According to Sgt. Paul Seidler, the lesbian/gay community liaison to

the police department, recruits were also given opportunities to attend dinners at various gay and lesbian restaurants, followed by tours of various bars and gay neighborhoods.

"The feedback is tremendous," said Seidler. "For some of these recruits, it is the first chance they have had to sit down with a gay man or lesbian on a one-on-one level and communicate."

Seidler said the recruits were divided up into smaller groups, thus ensuring that the recruits would visit different places. According to Seidler, the varied experiences meant that "the learning process will continue beyond the class. The recruits will exchange information far beyond the actual hours they would spend in the classroom."

Other minorities also participated at similar levels as the lesbian and gay community, thus the necessity of a 42-hour program. If the proposed cutbacks

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A pharmacist at Regis Pharmacy in Tijuana counts out 25 boxes of ribavirin — while Neal Smith counts out \$700 in cash. (B.A.R. Photo)

On The Border

U.S. Customs Relents, Allows Ribavirin; But Still a Long Haul to Get Treatment

by Brian Jones

TIJUANA, MEXICO — In the end it all comes down to 20 seconds, a backpack and the man in the green uniform. Neal Smith of San Francisco, carefully attired to look like a *tourista* rather than a denizen of the Clone Zone, stood in line at the U.S.-Mexican border.

Behind him the smog and hubbub — and pharmacies — of Tijuana seemed days and miles away, though we had just come from there. And from here, the U.S. territory beyond the Customs station somehow seemed a strange and alien place, though it was our home.

(Continued on page 14)

Gay Law Attacked In Wisconsin

Bart Starr Leads The Blitz For End-Run Around Gay Rights

by Brian Jones

Former Green Bay Packers quarterback Bart Starr is leading a blitz against the Wisconsin gay-rights law. With him at the line of scrimmage are fundamentalist Christians and right-wing Republicans—including the new Wisconsin governor. The defenders are on the run.

The Bart Starr squad already has forced dismemberment of a statewide gay council. And last year, they came within five votes in the 100-member Assembly in their effort to weaken the law. They're at it again this year. With conservative Tommy Thompson now in the governor's office, they have more muscle in the front line.

"We are quite concerned," said Dane County (Madison) Sup. Richard Wagner, who is openly gay. "If they get it out of committee, it will be a nip and tuck battle."

In 1982, Wisconsin became the only state to prohibit discrimination against gay and lesbian

(Continued on page 22)

Today

Power: That's what one candidate for Empress of San Francisco says she is after in running for the coveted crown. See pages 4 and 34 for the royal scoop.

Slanting Facts: Does the mainstream media cover the gay and lesbian community? Jay Newquist asks the question, page 17.

Chicken Singing Beethoven? The very funny Lori Noelle, a comedian for baby boomers, is coming to a stage near you. Joy Schulenburg reports, page 26.

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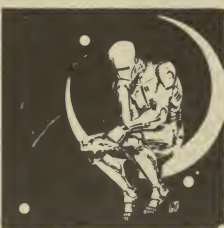
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DR. RICK PETTIT

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Britt Seen As Top Contender In Congressional Race

Time For Gay Rep. From S.F., Say Supporters; Britt Praised As 'Strong, Articulate Candidate'

by Wayne Friday and Allen White

Harry Britt, who for seven years has served on the San Francisco Board of Supervisors as an openly gay legislator, is running for the 5th Congressional District seat, vacated this week by the death of Rep. Sala Burton. Gov. George Deukmejian has two weeks to set a date for a special election which must be held within 55 to 77 days of the date the vacancy occurred.

Britt, however, has quickly emerged as the frontrunner in the contest. "I think his chance of being elected is more than a possibility," declared County Democratic chairperson Carole Migden, "it's a probability."

Britt's office said he will formally announce his candidacy within a week. The supervisor confidently told the Bay Area Reporter this week, "This will be the biggest challenge of my life and for our community and I will be elected."

Maurice Belote, new president of the Harvey Milk Lesbian and Gay Democratic Club, which Britt himself once headed, commented, "I'm excited for our movement, I'm excited for our club."

Gerry Parker, a founder of the lesbian and gay caucus of the California State Democratic Party and a former president of the Stonewall Gay Democratic Club, also praised Britt, "I'm all for Harry to run for Congress. We need a gay presence in Congress right now to fight for more AIDS funding. I know he will do as exemplary a job in Congress as he has on the board."

Alice B. Toklas Lesbian and Gay Democratic Club president Roberto Esteves told B.A.R., "I'm personally thrilled with the idea of an openly gay person running for Congress. What is more exciting is the fact that Harry is recognized as a strong and articulate candidate." Esteves continued, "This race will provide him the visibility to make a clear statement to the nation that gay and lesbian rights issues are not going to fade away at the federal level, and that gay men and women can proudly run for their rightful place in the highest offices in this country."

Britt's colleague on the board, Sup. John Molinari told the Bay Area Reporter this week that "Harry Britt would make a great Congressman. I have worked with him since he came to the board in 1979. He understands and uses the legislative process in a very positive and productive way."

Ron Huberman, vice-chair of the Democratic County Central



Sup. Harry Britt.

Committee and a longtime Milk Club official, showed his enthusiasm, saying, "I'm very excited thinking of a progressive gay man representing our city in the United States Congress. San Francisco, the humanitarian island of sanity in today's chaotic sea of right-wing, self-serving politics, will do itself proud by supporting and electing Harry to Congress."

Support for Britt also appeared to be evident in Sacramento last weekend during the California Democratic Party convention. Carole Migden noted that, "Many people perceive Harry as a winner. They understand there is a solid block of votes (for Britt)." That solid block that Migden spoke of is the estimated 25 percent of the voters in the 5th district who are gay.

A strong challenger to Britt is expected to be former California state party head Nancy Pelosi. Her ability to raise funds is expected to give her a sizable campaign bankroll quickly.

Nancy Pelosi chose not to attend last weekend's convention. Migden speculated that though

there are some people who have an "old party loyalty" to Pelosi, "many of these people are quite swayed."

Sup. Britt reacted to the apparent boom in support of his candidacy by saying, "I am grateful for the expressions of support by the many communities in San Francisco. If elected I will make the AIDS epidemic my highest priority in Congress."

Harry Britt was elected to a full term on the board of supervisors in December 1979, from the old district 5 and re-elected in November 1980 and 1984 in city-wide races. One of the most prominent elected gay officials in the country, Britt has also emerged as one of the strongest progressive voices in San Francisco politics, not only advocating the rights of gay people, but also building strong links to other constituents such as seniors, women, working people, minorities, the disabled, renters and environmentalists.

Religion Loses Some Grip On The People

NEW YORK — Maybe the message will sink through to the clergy sometime. The signs are there. People are getting tired of the hypocrisy of organized religion.

For the first time in more than a decade, organized religion has lost its ranking as the institution in which Americans have greatest confidence. A recent Gallup poll shows 57 percent of respondents said they have had great confidence in the church, compared to 66 percent last year. The nine percent decrease is attributed to increased church involvement in controversial issues.

—The Philadelphia Gay News

SFPD

(Continued from page 1)

remain in effect, police recruits will spend one day in a van, taking a basic tour of the city. Seidler pointed to one tour which included stops at a family violence project, and CUAV, as well as a "graffiti tour," and lunch at a tamale restaurant. Seidler said one recruit wrote in his evaluation that he knew "little (next to) nothing about the communities and (that he) needed more information."

Under the new program, according to Seidler, once the recruit gets out of the academy and is assigned to a station, he or she is required to pick up an extra eight hours of training in minority awareness from a field training officer.

Jordan became aware of displeasure in the lesbian and gay

community over the cutbacks when Golden Gate Business Association president Rod Palmer and executive director Steven Rascher wrote a letter to Jordan on Jan. 26. GGBA members have escorted recruits when they have gone on their "gay night" tours. Both Palmer and Rascher cited "an apparent contradiction in San Francisco Police Department policy in regards to its minority outreach to the gay community."

They were referring to the minority awareness cutbacks as well as a speech Jordan gave on Jan. 20 to the San Francisco Tavern Guild. In that speech, Palmer and Rascher allege that Jordan "cited the need for education to increase awareness among police officers and gays in order to prevent further murders and help your officers to better understand the circumstances under which these killings have occurred."



Sgt. Paul Seidler. (Photo: Rink)

Women's Music Fest Battles City On Use Of Land

Settlement Due on \$10M Suit

by Joy Schulenburg

San Francisco Park and Recreation Department officials have informed producers of the West Coast Women's Music Festival that their predominantly lesbian event has outgrown the facilities at city-owned Camp Mather. Despite a five year lease and considerable disappointment, organizers began to look elsewhere for another outdoor site for the festival which annually draws 3,500 women.

That was in 1982. Producer Robin Tyler, however, discovered in 1986 that the city rented Camp Mather to sponsors of the Strawberry Festival, an event that draws 6,000 people and which is billed as "family-oriented".

Tyler promptly filed a \$10 million lawsuit against the city of San Francisco—one of the largest anti-discrimination suits ever brought. On Wednesday, Feb. 4, the financial committee of the Department of Park and Recreation was to vote on a settlement offer proposed by Tyler's attorneys.

Women's music festivals across the country have been plagued for years with the problem of renting suitable land. Last year's East Coast festival was forced to cancel after the Boy Scouts of America, owners of the land they were renting, demanded that they remove the word "lesbian" from their literature and made other requests unacceptable to festival producers.

The Southern festival, operating out of Forsyth County, Georgia, retained land use from the Union of American Hebrew Congregations only after bringing in the ACLU. Festival organizers anticipate additional legal problems this year.

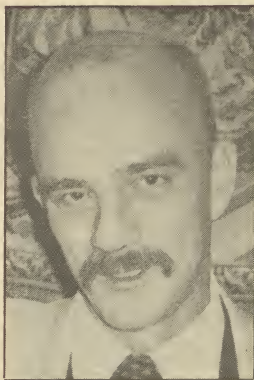
The only regional event that is not currently threatened by discrimination is Michigan's. After five years of renting space, Michigan festival producers were able to purchase the needed land, ensuring themselves an adequate site.

Tyler points out that the present West Coast site, Camp Towanga, has only 200 acres compared to the 500 acres of useable land at Camp Mather. Towanga, located in Yosemite, has proved more than adequate to support the festival's 3,500 women over the last few years.

Unfortunately, the United Jewish Community Centers which operate Camp Towanga have chosen to triple their rental fee for the facility in 1987. This drastic increase as well as skyrocketing insurance premiums would result in increased ticket costs, pricing the event beyond the means of many low-income women.

Tyler is committed to keeping the festival accessible and affordable. Despite mounting legal fees and other financial liabilities inherent in the use of Camp Mather, she would rather have the land than the money.

The present settlement offer reflects this concern—Tyler is willing to accept an agreement by the Park and Recreation Department to let her use Mather at the cost of \$1 per year over the next five years in lieu of the \$10 million in damages and fees named in her suit. Although this would save the festival a considerable sum in rental fees, Tyler expects this savings to be offset by other expenses, including legal fees, added equipment rentals and a possibly lowered attendance rate.



'It doesn't appear at this point that any part of it (the gay and lesbian mental health team's health program at 17th and Noe Streets) is going to change ...'

— Jim Foster
(Photo: Rink)

The festival has traditionally taken place over Labor Day weekend. This year, Camp Mather has already been leased to the promoters of the Strawberry Festival for the long weekend in September.

If the present trend of legal difficulties and prohibitive rents continues, the future of regional

(Continued on page 18)

Community Outrage Saves 17th Street Mental Health Group

'City Needs Halfway Houses': True

by Charles Linebarger

Community outrage scuttled a plan which would have scrapped the gay and lesbian mental health team at Health Center #1, Noe and 17th Streets. Budget cuts in the city's mental health program indicated the gay and lesbian mental health program at the 17th and Noe Sts. facility was in trouble. That was, however, before lesbian and gay community activists went to work.

"We screamed and yelled, and called everyone we know," explained Pat Denning, coordinator of mental health services at Health Center #1. "We have 20 letters being delivered and a petition from Health Center #1, as well as 12 people lined up to testify (The Health Commission was due to hold hearings on the proposed cuts on Feb. 3)."

Jim Foster, gay member of the Health Commission, told B.A.R. that, as of Feb. 2, it didn't appear Denning had anything to worry about. "It doesn't appear at this

point that any part of it is going to change," said Foster. "There's too much political fallout. Eventually, the system will just go bankrupt."

When asked whether that meant that the Health Commission would not be making cuts at Health Center #1 at its meeting on Feb. 2, Foster said, "It's all up in the air. Depending on how the vote goes on the commission, it looks like Mount Zion (Crisis Center) may be closed instead."

(Continued from page 18)

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Empress and Emperor candidates (l. to r.) Lily Street, Rick Manring, Tatiana, Patrick McGonigle, and Tina Tanner at a recent All Candidates Night (Photo: Rink)

Service, Fun — And Power Draw Royal Candidates

3 Want To Be Empress, 2 For Emperor;

by Allen White

The race to elect the 1987 Emperor and Empress of San Francisco is now in full swing. This year there are three candidates for Empress—Lily Street, Tatiana, Tina Tanner—and two for Emperor—Rick Manring and Patrick McGonigle.

The voting will take place Saturday, Feb. 14 from 9 a.m. till 6 p.m. at the San Franciscan Hotel. The hotel is located on Market Street, at 8th Street. Anyone can vote with identification which may include two pieces of addressed mail, such as a utility or telephone bill, that establishes them as a resident of San Francisco.

Lily Street is making her first bid for the Empress title. Ms. Street states the reason she wants to become Empress is, in a word, "power." "Just as a person with the initials, VP, CPA or MA has power, I will have power with the initials HMIM (Her Most Imperial Majesty)," she says.

"Lily Street is more than a four letter word," she exclaims. She blossomed for the first time one Easter when she joined her neighbors to stage the Lily Street Easter Party. There have now been five parties on the street, making them an annual tradition in the city's gay community.

As with most of the candidates, Lily Street emphasizes that she is a "fun candidate." Against that, Lily also mentions that she has the "intelligence to motivate" and the "sensitivity to listen to pain."

Tatiana is making her second run for the Empress title. "I want to be a Valentine Empress," she exclaims. She also wants to focus on the ability of the Empress to raise money.

Her campaign staff, which seems to have boundless energy, has produced 500 buttons which are being sold fast, she says. Tatiana predicts that because of brisk sales, they will have to make another 500. Though a campaign gimmick, Tatiana is showing her stuff by putting her words into action.

Tatiana also wants to motivate people. "I enjoy making people have fun," she says.

The prospective candidate also wants to use her hopefully new-found Empress role to give her the organization to do more charitable efforts. She says that she will be able to do more with the official sanctions available when an event is labeled "an official court function." Tatiana produced several successful fund-raising events last year including an event at the Green Room and a Christmas Party at the High Chaparral.

Possibly one of the most outstanding elements of Tatiana's campaign is her traveling pep squad. Wearing red sweat shirts and carrying flags, they have been descending on bars all over the city.

Tatiana is truly proud of her boys. "There is fresh blood in my committee," she says. "They are so excited and they are loving it."

Tina Tanner is a big girl who likes to be at the head of the parade. Last June, Tina Tanner walked like a proud drag queen at the head of the Lesbian and Gay Freedom Day Parade. The honor was the result of hard work as a member of the parade's board of directors on which she served.

Tina Tanner obviously enjoys being a grand and elegant lady. On the campaign trail it is not surprising for Ms. Tanner's contingent to arrive in two stretch limousines.

This style of campaigning is

expensive. "It costs a fucking fortune," Ms. Tanner exclaims. It's hard to question that statement as she tells of her wardrobe which includes furs, white pearls, red pants and assorted baubles, bangles and beads.

The experience of being Empress is "living out a fairy tale type of existence," says Tina Tanner. In talking to the candidate, there is the sense that she grasps the "trip" of becoming Empress.

If Tina Tanner becomes Empress, she says, "They will know I have been around." It is a statement summarizing her desire to give the people what she believes they want from their Empress.

Tuesday through Friday, Tina Tanner officiates at the Galleon as a bartender from noon through 7 p.m. From that site, she plans her campaign strategy.

Running for Emperor are Rick Manring and Patrick McGonigle, who both survived a rather rigorous screening program to run for the office.

Manring says, "I have always been in the background and now I want to be out in the forefront. I want to be a more theatrical character and use theatrics to get attention."

Manring is theming his campaign to the world of magic. In the past several days he has presented a magic show at Kimos and done a show to the "magical world of music" at the Kokpit.

The candidate enters with a solid list of credentials in the gay community. He has served such organizations as the Save Our Human Rights Foundation, Golden Gate Business Association, the Lesbian and Gay Freedom Day Committee, Bay Area Lawyers for Individual Freedom, and the Tavern Guild.

Manring says he wants to "bring new magic and fire to the office of Emperor."

Patrick McGonigle, on the other hand, sees a more serious side to the business. He wants to increase the Emperor's role in community fund raising. "It has been neglected in the last few years," he says.

McGonigle has been active in the presentation of the annual Mr. Financial District fundraiser as well as the CMC Carnival. He notes that he has been active for the last ten years with several of the city's Emperors and Empresses and their activities.

The voting takes place on Feb. 14. Winners are announced at the Coronation on the following Saturday night, Feb. 21. This year's Coronation will be presented at the Giftcenter Pavilion.

Initial indicators point to this year being a grand year for some and a sobering year for others. There is a large number of people in on the planning and it will reflect the many traditions of the Imperial Court.

The winners will become the 23rd Empress of San Francisco and the 15th Emperor after Joshua Norton.

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Health Project New Address

The AIDS Health Project announces the move of its administrative offices to the Far West Laboratory building at 1855 Folsom Street, Suite 506. The Project is a program of the University of California, San Francisco. Its new address and phone number are: UCSF AIDS Health Project, Box 0884, San Francisco, CA 94143-0884, telephone 476-6430.

In preparation for the move, the AIDS Health Project received

a generous \$2,500 grant from Design & Interior Furnishings Foundation for AIDS (DIFFA). The design industry has taken a courageous step forward to join forces with others concerned about AIDS to educate their members about the disease and to provide industry resources and financial support to AIDS agencies around the country.

Contributions of partitions, shelving and other office furnishings are still greatly needed to complete the move. Those wishing to assist the Project may contact Tim Sally at 476-6430.

End of the Road For DMV Director?

Del Pierce Shot Down By Submachine Gun for Gays

by Brian Jones

The director of the state's Department of Motor Vehicles hit a "ROAD CLOSED" sign last week. The Senate Rules Committee refused to confirm A.A. "Del" Pierce after he was publicly accused of making an anti-gay statement. Three former associates swore again, under oath, that Pierce in 1983 said, "Oh, I know how to handle that problem"—gay rights and AB-1—"Just give me a submachine gun."

Two of the five members of the Senate Rules Committee voted to confirm Pierce last week. Three votes were needed to send the nomination to the full Senate. Pierce was nominated to the cabinet-level post by Gov. George Deukmejian more than 11 months ago. He must be confirmed by Feb. 13 or he loses his job.

The Rules Committee held a second public hearing last week to try to resolve disputed testimony. But when it was over, there was more dispute than ever.

"The Rules Committee met with all the members present and Dave Roberti"—committee chair—"had the sergeant at arms lock the doors. All the witnesses were under oath and nobody could leave until it was over, which was an hour and a half," said Roberti aide Stan Hadden.

"But once again, there was sharply conflicting testimony. It is clear that somebody was not telling the truth."

Three former officials of the Department of Fair Employment and Housing repeated their charge that Pierce made the "submachine gun" statement at a meeting in late 1983. Pierce and one former official of the Consumer Services Agency—which oversees the Fair Employment agency—repeated their denial of the statement.

Said Hadden, "The more we investigate it, the cloudier the issues become. We have delayed Pierce's confirmation twice in order to investigate the charges more fully, and it just gets worse. Roberti has come to see this thing as a real pain."

David Roberti (D-Hollywood) is the leader of the Senate. He represents heavily gay sections of Los Angeles County, including West Hollywood and Silverlake. His position as President Pro Tem of the Senate makes him chair of the powerful Rules Committee.

A MOLE HILL

The Rules Committee's two Republicans voted to confirm Pierce. William Craven (R-San Diego) called the controversy over the submachine-gun statement "making a mountain out of a mole hill." And long-time gay opponent John Doolittle (R-Folsom) also voted to confirm Pierce.

The Governor's Office was working quietly but powerfully behind the scenes to work out a deal for Pierce's confirmation. Copies of letters from gay employees who have worked with Pierce during his 20 years in state service have been circulated to senators.

But none of those pro-Pierce, gay employees will go public or allow their names to be used.



Sen. David Roberti

get this thing through," Wahl said this week. "One thing is obvious: Some people have perjured themselves."

Since there is directly conflicting testimony, under oath, the law has been broken somewhere and the State Attorney General should do an independent investigation, Wahl said.

HURRY UP AND WAIT

Wahl said he was suspicious why the Senate Rules Committee

waited 11 months to hold a hearing on Pierce—then tried to rush through his confirmation. Now, some senators are saying Pierce should be confirmed despite the disputed statement. Since time is running out and the controversy has not been resolved, some senators argue that Pierce should be confirmed so his career won't be destroyed needlessly.

Wahl is outraged. "Just because the Senate Rules Committee waited 11 months to hold hearings is not a good reason to rush this thing through," Wahl said. "The fact that this reflects on his career is unfortunate, but the Rules Committee should not have waited so long."

"The Attorney General should investigate this thing thoroughly and if he finds the charges are false, I am sure that George Deukmejian can find another job in state government for Del Pierce," Wahl said.

Pierce has until Feb. 13 to win confirmation by the full Senate. Theoretically, the full Senate could pull Pierce up for confirmation without a vote of the Rules Committee—but such a procedural bypass is almost unheard of.

More likely, the Rules Committee will take up the Pierce matter again on Wednesday, Feb. 11. The panel could issue a report urging no confirmation, or issue a report with no recommendation. Unless one of the three committee Democrats changes his vote, it is impossible for the committee to issue a report which recommends confirmation for Pierce.

Or the committee could do nothing at all—leaving the DMV director at the end of a dark dead-end with his career running on empty, as the calendar approaches Friday the Thirteenth.

Jan. AIDS Stats

The San Francisco Health Department reported a total of 93 new cases of AIDS and 73 deaths from AIDS in January in the city. The January figures declined slightly from 107 new cases and 91 deaths in December. According to the federal Centers for Disease Control, there have now been 29,000 cases of AIDS reported in the U.S. since 1981, with 16,847 deaths. In California, there have been 6,795 cases reported and 3,116 deaths in that time.



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EXECUTIVE & EDITORIAL OFFICES:
1528 15th Street
San Francisco, CA 94103

TELEPHONES:
(415) 861-5019/861-7230

PUBLISHER:
Bob Ross

NEWS EDITOR:
Ray O'Loughlin

ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR:
Dianne Gregory

ASSOCIATE EDITOR:
Will Snyder

CONTRIBUTING EDITOR:
Brian Jones

FINE ARTS EDITOR:
George Heymont

POLITICAL EDITOR:
Wayne Friday

OFFICE MANAGER:
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CAMERA:
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Richard Burt

TYPESETTING:
Tony Lindsey, Austin Snow

CONTRIBUTING PHOTOGRAPHERS:
Mick Hicks, Scott Martin,
Scott McLennan,
Photo Graphics/Darlene,
Robert Pruzan, Rink,
Savage Photography

CARTOONIST:
David Brady

AUDITOR/ACCOUNTANT:
Robert J. Dern, C.P.A.

CONTRIBUTORS:

Kim Anno, Les Balmain, Ken Bergeson, Philip Campbell, Mark I. Chester, Jerry R. De Young, Gregory Douthwaite, Wayne Friday, Mark Friese, George Heymont, Michael Hippler, Frank J. Howell, Dot James, John Karr, Larry Kim, Gerard Koskovich, Charles Linebarger, Mister Marcus, George Mendenhall, David-Alex Nahmod, Jay Newquist, Sharon Page, Nez Pas, Adele Prandini, Paul Reed, Joy Schulenburg, Marv. Shaw, Rodger Soto, Rick Thoman, Paul Trefzger, Tom Vindeed, Dick Walters, Lauren Ward, Steve Warren, Allen White, Keith White, Bob Woolhouse



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EDITORIAL & OPINION

Taking the Fifth

The dynasty has ended. With the death of Rep. Sala Burton, the last hold on Bay Area political office by the Burton family machine has come to an end. It is indeed unfortunate that for the second time in recent years, voters of the 5th Congressional District will face a special election following the death of their representative in Washington.

Unlike in 1983, however, when Sala Burton was easily moved up to replace her late husband, Phil Burton, this year's contest promises to be a real horse race. A number of serious contenders have publicly spoken of their intention to run. Among them are gay Sup. Harry Britt, Democratic Party apparatchik Nancy Pelosi, and Sups. Bill Maher and Carol Ruth Silver.

The machine may have fallen apart, but it is still making noises as the apparatus tries to produce one more heir to the throne. Old power brokers never give up. Already there are reports that party regulars are

being told to line up for the party leaders' designated choice or face some dire consequences. Full speed ahead, the voters be damned, is their attitude.

But this is not the 1970s when office holders could be hand picked by party operatives and merely crowned by voters. The next representative from the 5th C.D. should not be picked in some back room or silk parlor in Sacramento or Washington or Pacific Heights.

The winner should be decided by the voters of the district after a thorough and open discussion of issues. For the gay and lesbian community, who make up a sizable portion of those voters, that means, first and foremost, someone who is knowledgeable about AIDS and committed to leading the fight against it. More than just a loyal vote on certain bills, we need someone to champion our cause. We deserve nothing less. After all, no candidate will be elected without our vote.

The last election saw some of the sleaziest campaign tactics ever devised. A number of voters showed their displeasure by staying home on election day. Out of respect for the voters and our democratic process, let this campaign be open and issue oriented. We deserve nothing less.

Lock the Chapel

When church people get down on gay people, one of their favorite whines is that gay people don't form stable, permanent relationships. You know, coupled for life, as in, once you say "I do" there's no exit.

They conveniently overlook the fact that at least half of all couples bonded in wedlock will break those chains at some point, for better or for worse. And they overlook the fact that gay and lesbian couples persist in staying together despite no help from their society and despite numerous obstacles.

Trying to remove one of those obstacles and establish one means of support for same sex couples are members of the Episcopal church. For the past few years, gay, lesbian and some straight Episcopalians have lobbied for the acceptance of an official church rite acknowledging and blessing same sex relationships.

* Many gay and lesbian couples may never want such a ceremony. The idea of "gay marriage" is viewed with about as much disdain and ridicule on this side of the fence as on the straight side. You invented wedlock, you can have it.

The need to recognize and lend community support to gay couples is another issue entirely. We recently saw one of the effects of leaving gay partners in legal and social limbo when San Francisco daily newspapers wrestled with the dilemma of who gets to be named in obituaries and how to describe their relationships.

It seems only human and fair to have some means of publicly establishing relationships. The overall theme of gay liberation—which still goes on, folks, despite numerous proclamations of its demise—is "coming out." That is still the central dilemma for lesbian and gay people everywhere. Coming out to yourself, to friends, to family, on the job, to neighbors, in legal arrangements—it never stops. Just when you think you're all the way out, a new challenge arises. The process just moves to a new level.

It is time that gay relationships get the social recognition they're entitled to. It's time that gay couples be allowed out of the shadows. A church ceremony may have no legal impact on the rights of couples, for example, to file income taxes, but it would provide some acknowledgement by the very churchy American society that it is willing to extend some support to our right to live as we wish.

Unfortunately, Bishop William E. Swing has chosen to forsake the leadership role his diocese was taking on the issue of gay union blessings. He apparently has been intimidated by some to abort the promising process he had originally supported. His Bay Area diocese was leading the church and this society in working out a holy union ritual. Now, everything is on hold.

The real misfortune is that Swing's attempt to cut short the debate because it threatened to be divisive, may end up creating more divisiveness and bitterness than any other course of action.

Ray O'Loughlin

OPINION

Questions for Ribavirin Study

by Donald I. Abrams, M.D.
Assistant Director, AIDS Clinic
San Francisco General Hospital

Over the past five years since our community has been devastated by the arrival of the human immunodeficiency virus, the Bay Area Reporter has taken a leadership role in the dissemination of information to a large readership. You are to be congratulated for the efforts you have made in AIDS education in San Francisco.

Although I have rarely if ever been approached to directly assist you in this important information dissemination role, I was somewhat dismayed to read in Brian Jones' Jan. 15 column that my objections to the ribavirin study had been singled out for comment.

It is, in fact, true that I do have concerns over the reported study on ribavirin in the cohort of patients with the lymphadenopathy syndrome. Having followed a group of men initially enrolled with asymptomatic lymphadenopathy in 1981, I feel that I do have some knowledge regarding the natural history of this AIDS-related syndrome.

In my experience, the rate of progression to AIDS in a six-month period in men entirely asymptomatic, other than lymphadenopathy, would be very low. In fact, I would have expected no patients in any of the three groups to have developed AIDS in this time frame. With 18 percent of the placebo group developing AIDS in a six-month period one could extrapolate and predict that this would represent at least a 36 percent rate of conversion from asymptomatic lymphadenopathy to AIDS in a one-year period.

Certainly this is above and beyond any reported statistics for people with this manifestation of HIV infection. Remember that a separate study, in which we have participated at San Francisco General Hospital, was performed on a group of more symptomatic patients that the company has defined as "ARC." The results of this study are presently unavailable.

Another concern over the reported data from the lymphadenopathy

study is that three quarters of the presumably effective dose was as ineffective as placebo in preventing patients from going on to develop AIDS. Does this suggest that if a person skips one dose that the beneficial effect of the drug is eliminated?

These are my concerns regarding the recent lymphadenopathy study results. I await with interest the data to be generated from evaluation of the ARC patients completing a similar trial.

Over the past few years I have also been involved in the care of people with AIDS and ARC who have chosen to treat themselves with ribavirin obtained in Mexico. Perhaps my view of the effectiveness of the drug is slanted by the reality that I unfortunately have not been witnessing the ribavirin successes in the AIDS clinic. Patients I have seen have progressed from ARC to AIDS. Patients with AIDS taking ribavirin have unfortunately expired.

Ribavirin may ultimately have a place in the armory of agents necessary to effectively combat HIV. In the search for effective therapy, we have, in fact, participated in the multicenter trial evaluating this drug in ARC patients. Our search continues.

Many dedicated staff of the Division of AIDS Activities have been working extremely hard over the past few years in an effort to locate the magic bullet. We also become frustrated at times by the lack of progress and the continued devastation.

Equally and even more frustrating is the inability of us all to work together as a united community in fighting our common enemy, HIV. Instead, we are labeled "AIDS idiots" and accused of hastening death either with "exotic drugs" such as suramin or with our "embarrassment."

Fortunately for most of us, enough gratification is obtained from interacting with the incredibly courageous people we deal with on a daily basis that such cheap personal attacks cause one to only transiently ask the question why to continue in face of such distortion of intent.

My only regret is that your readership does not benefit from having the opportunity to at least have the columnist interact directly with those whose opinions are maligned.

Save Your Wrath

★ It seems that every medical advance in AIDS, large or small, is fodder for the tongues and pens of gay community "spokesmen" whether warranted or not. Such questionable treatment was exemplified by the article "Dying from Embarrassment" by Brian Jones (Jan. 15, 1987).

It is true that results of clinical trials of new drugs (including ribavirin for AIDS and ARC) are usually not announced until there is opportunity for "peer review," that is, evaluation of the protocol and results of the study by experts qualified to judge the quality of the research. Because of the urgency of any encouraging news about treatment of AIDS, this principle is being set aside in favor of early release of information and expedited review by FDA, as was done recently with ribavirin and AZT trials. If such departure from usual practice were not used, the "spokesmen" would be up in arms because of what they would probably term "suppression of data." When early release does occur, the same spokesmen imply all kinds of skulduggery on the part of the sponsoring company or FDA or both because an automatic approval for sale is not immediately issued, and even impugn the medical establishment for attempting to prevent use of a lifesaving drug for underhanded reasons.

After 23 years experience in clinical research of new drugs, it is obvious to me that all possible speed is being shown by all governmental agencies and medical professionals for making available to AIDS and ARC patients all drugs which have a modicum of reliable data to permit use with any degree of assurance of lack of toxicity and possibility of producing beneficial results. Surreptitious use of drugs without an organized and supervised protocol by untrained individuals, no matter how well-intentioned, does not promote the required kind of data collection to establish truth of either efficacy or safety. That is not science.

Such unsubstantiated charges are not in the best interests of the gay community. Save your wrath for a legitimate cause, a cause you may know more about.

W. L. Warner, MD
President, Bay Area
Physicians for Human Rights
San Francisco

Fit Or Fad: Unprofessional

★ In reference to your article "Fit or Fad, II, One Person's Guide to Aerobics for Beginners or Seasoned Veterans," I must take exception to your reporter's outlook and attitude. His research is obviously not only very personal, but quite inadequate and altogether unnecessarily biased. Or perhaps just lazy. But in any case, inaccurate. His discussion of the "Body Rhythms" program was simply uninformed. Had he cared to keep current, and check the bulletins left by the instructor at the school, he'd have found an address to which to write for a full refund for unused portions of class tickets. That he didn't do so is an indication of a thoroughly unprofessional approach. Surely your advertisers pay for and your readers expect better things from your paper.

Jo Whittle
San Francisco

Not True

★ The statement in Brian Jones' column of January 29, 1987 that I have been "recruited" on to KQED's Board of Directors and have said, "No" is not correct. Although I have been approached concerning the possibility, no offers have been made, nor have I indicated what my response would be in such an event.

Thomas E. Horn
San Francisco

The KQED Situation

★ Regarding Brian Jones' column on negotiations between KQED and the gay/lesbian community, the readers of the B.A.R. should know the facts:

Sup. John Molinari stepped into the KQED fray at our request and at the point when all hope of meaningful dialogue with KQED seemed lost. Molinari threatened the (still) very real prospect of public hearings on Hotel Tax Fund money going to KQED (\$150,000 a year for three years) if KQED's general manager, Tony Tiano, would not meet with us to resolve the issues between KQED and the gay/lesbian community. Tiano agreed to meet with us, and the hearings were postponed. Molinari's involvement, at the very least, has resulted in KQED's serious consideration of the issues we raised.

Our demands do indeed include programming issues; however, our "employment" issues center around 1) the inclusion of gay/lesbian talent into KQED's regular local programming and 2) KQED's

continued broadcast of MonitoRadio. MonitoRadio and its parent, the Christian Science Monitor, do discriminate on the basis of sexual orientation. We have asked KQED to join us in condemning the Christian Science Monitor and MonitoRadio for their employment policies and demand their immediate change. However, KQED is not violating city law in its own employment practices.

Lastly, Harry Britt is now actively involved in our negotiations. At our meeting with Tiano he was fully aware of the issues on the table, and quite eloquent in his portrayal of our frustration at the lack of any meaningful response from KQED.

This Friday, we will meet again with Tiano for a point by point response to our issues from KQED. Meanwhile, the boycott goes on.

Roberto Esteves
Laurie McBride
San Francisco

Sick Theater

★ I am outraged, to say the least, that the Sisters are planning an obnoxious High Mass in honor of Pope John Paul II. Let me make this perfectly clear, "The Sisters do not speak for the gay community in any way, manner, or form, and they especially do not speak for me."

We do not need this kind of sick, theatrical irreverence for the pope and millions of TV viewers to see. Such actions could do us more harm than good.

So I say to the Sisters, "Put the gowns, makeup, high heels and drag back in the closet. We don't need it or you."

James Stuart
San Francisco

The Cable Car Snub

★ After viewing the 1987 Cable Car Award nominations I am appalled that Different Spokes was not nominated in the Outstanding AIDS Fundraiser category for the 1986 AIDS Bike-A-Thon. Last year's Bike-A-Thon raised over \$230,000 for direct patient care services for people with AIDS. This was a grassroots, 100 percent volunteer effort by the members of Different Spokes and the 650 riders. All of the monies raised by pledge contributions to riders went directly to the beneficiary organizations and not to administrative costs. No one profited from this event, the cost of administering the event came in the form of contributions of money, goods, and services from a wide range of individuals and businesses within the community. I think it's a shame that the largest community AIDS fundraiser ever in San Francisco was overlooked by the nominating committee of the Cable Car Awards. The volunteers and riders of the Bike-A-Thon have earned and deserve our appreciation and thanks.

Joseph Barry
Oakland

Three Cheers For Gay \$

★ I'm writing about the "Gay \$" which a gay rights group in Chicago has been printing on paper money. The federal government has told them it's illegal, and to cease and desist.

However, in a society in which gay men and women don't have even the basic right to love, where only months ago we were re-told that the Constitution doesn't include us, I feel the Chicago protest is valid and necessary, if only to tell the average Joe or Jane in the street that, yes, we are here, and we have spending power, we are taxpayers, and money passes through our hands as well as theirs.

I propose to write — in red felt pen or whatever — "Gay \$" on the bills every gay person handles and spends. Unlike the Chicago group, which publicly noted its action, we cannot be so easily identified or legally threatened.

And if the government thinks to go after every gay person who puts GAY \$ on our currency, they will find — and the public might learn — that there are indeed millions of us. We are legion, and in a day when we have no rights and right-wing, fundamentalist hate groups are trying to deny our very existence or right to life and love, it is time to stop acting closety and make a stand. Imagine if every piece of paper currency which passed through gay hands bore GAY \$ on it. We would remind the nation of our numbers, our resolve, and perhaps shock them with our presence.

Three cheers for GAY \$!!!

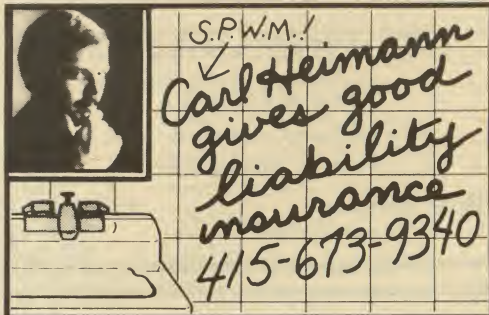
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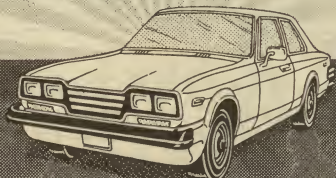
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LETTERS

Public Penile Protest

★ I heartily recommend that every gay male in the Bay Area converge on various sites of the Papal visit and expose their genitals as the Pope passes. Whether we wish to protest a teeny-weeny bit or make a more elongated thing of the matter, we will demonstrate that as a community we are not boning up to Papal peonism.

Our public penile protest would serve to postulate that peeing is not the only purpose for penises, as the Pope patiently purports. He shall be told that he will not get his P's and Q's straight, that is priest and queers; he shall be told that his prayers are mere utterances of his phoniness; and his presence a purely prudish, prejudicial, and propogative of public paranoia.

It is time we take in hand the tools we have been so endowed with and publicly prick the conscience of that pompous ass.

Paul J. Ranieri
San Francisco

Aerobics Brouhaha

★ I assume the author of "Fit or Fad II" is a jackass because obviously he can't move his arms in rhythm with his legs without hurting himself. "It's no wonder he's confused by the difference between screaming and an orgasm."

My assumption is that Mr. Stone is such an egoist that he neglected to tell the instructor that he was a Rhythm and Motion novice at the beginning of the class when such questions are asked. In the hundreds of classes I have attended not once has an instructor failed to ask this question. When there are beginners in a class, the instructor always teaches them safety precautions and gives special attention to their learning the routines. I question Mr. Stone's qualifications to critique any fitness program, and sincerely hope that his expertise, be it such, can be shared by all the aerobics facilities in the Bay Area. I'm sure he'll be much more successful selling his services to them than he is as a columnist to the Bay Area Reporter.

K. James Burgess
San Francisco

ED. NOTE: Having taken aerobics classes for a few years seems to be enough qualification for Robert Stone to critique a program.

Ray O'Loughlin

Bones To The Dogs

★ I read with interest your coverage of Integrity's response to Bp. Swing's latest waffle on the blessing of gay relationships and Swing's reply.

The fact is that Swing apparently never intended to consider, let alone allow the blessing of gay relationships. All of the commissions he has appointed and the "dialogue" that he has engaged in has all been a sham — bones to the dogs.

Swing has cited in the past his concern over the reaction of the more conservative parishes in his diocese. During a meeting in his office on June 10, 1983 regarding this issue I offered on behalf of my lover and myself to go into those parishes and talk to them on their own terms about any questions they may have on the gay lifestyle, the theology of the blessing of gay relationships — anything. He never took us up on that offer and I doubt that anyone else has been sent into those parishes to help educate them. Swing doesn't want those parishes educated because they serve as a convenient excuse for him to continually postpone positive action on providing the comfort of the church to all Episcopalians.

Why? I think Swing wants to be elected Presiding Bishop when Bishop Browning's term is up in eight years and he doesn't want to shake up the conservative southern and midwestern bishops. Ironically, Bishop Browning probably would have no hesitation about approving a liturgy for blessing gay relationships. We are being sacrificed on the altar of Swing's personal ambition.

Interestingly enough, I hear that at least one prominent member of the Parsonage had his relationship blessed in an Episcopal Church at a regularly scheduled service with Swing's full knowledge and approval! So if you are a member of his inner circle of gay sycophants you can have your relationship blessed; if not, you are denied the full ministry of the church because of public opinion and personal ambition.

Finally we come to Swing's bitchy, inaccurate letter to Integrity cutting off any further dialogue because Integrity made a reasonable response to his waffle. As a Bishop in the Episcopal Church, Swing does not have the right to cut off dialogue or debate, public or private, on any subject with any concerned church member or group. To do so, I submit, violates both the letter and spirit of his consecration and we

would be well within our rights to begin proceedings to remove him from his position in this diocese if he maintains this unreasonable and unchristian stance.

As I have said before, my parish priest may bless my dog, my house, my boat, my car, my furniture, my job and on Rogation days the dirt and manure in my yard. My parish priest puts his calling in jeopardy if he blesses my relationship of 10 years' standing with my lover. This puts clearly into perspective the attitude of Swing toward gay people. We rank somewhere below the manure in my yard.

Swing has done an admirable job of covering up his bigotry by his admirable pastoral care for those with AIDS. The fact remains that he regards us as less than full human beings and not entitled to all of the comforts of the church.

Perhaps it is time to reiterate my call (printed in my guest column in the B.A.R. on 3/31/83) for gay Episcopalians to designate all of their monetary gifts to their parishes for specific purposes. Such gifts cannot be used to compute diocesan assessment and thus cannot be used to pay Swing's salary. I think that it is time for gay Episcopalians to stop paying for a bishop who disgraces his office and demeans his predecessors with his unrelenting bigotry.

Ken Clark
San Francisco

'A Puzzling Tropical Disease'

★ In the 1/25/87 Chronicle/Examiner appeared a section of articles they had published 20 years ago. One of them dated 1/27/67 read as follows:

"A puzzling tropical disease nicknamed the 'Vietnamese Time Bomb' has killed 10 servicemen in the war zone since 1965, and doctors there warn physicians in all U.S. Army hospitals to be on the watch for patients with 'difficult to diagnose symptoms.' The disease, technically known as melioidosis (a Greek word for 'distemper of asses,' because it usually affects cattle, sheep and horses), most commonly attacks the lungs with pneumonia-like symptoms and can lie in a dormant state for up to six years or more before suddenly killing its victims."

Draw your own conclusions.

Rod Geddes
San Francisco

'Uncle Tom' Betancourt

★ Well, Betancourt is at it again! (B.A.R., 1/29). His vitriolic drivel against B.A.R., his Uncle Tom mentality on the gay movement, his flutulent posturing on AIDS, it all reeks of stupidity and insensitivity on issues he knows nothing about. At a time when our gay and lesbian communities are facing a most devastating epidemic and attacks from the right-wing fascists, along comes this Betancourt character and adds more fuel to the fires of bigotry and oppression.

Although this letter is not meant to dignify Betancourt's blabberings with a reply, I feel it's time to call for a moratorium on this individual and his homophobic letters.

I do not know what this man's sexual orientation is (who cares or gives a rat's ass?), but it's evident he has a problem in that area. San Francisco and B.A.R. readers do not need or want to hear or read any more of this man's bitter and scornful rantings against our gay and lesbian community. Enough already!

Ed Dollak
San Francisco

I Won't Hold My Breath

★ I wonder if the "Gay Vietnam Veteran" received an "Other Than Honorable" discharge. If so, he like the other 90,000 or so gay and lesbian veterans who have served honorably but received "Bad Paper" only because of their sexuality should have their discharges upgraded to Honorable and receive their veterans benefits. We forgave those who fled to Canada, but I'll not hold my breath waiting for gays to be accepted.

During the March on Washington, D.C. on next Oct. 11, gay and lesbian veterans from various organizations throughout the country will place a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier at Arlington National Cemetery. We shall be honoring the memory of over 1 million American veterans who died in action. In particular, we shall be honoring the over 100,000 gay and lesbian veterans who died in action.

All veterans and friends are invited to attend this "First" for gay and lesbian veterans. San Francisco's own Alexander Hamilton American Legion Post and Sonoma/Marin's VETERANS C.A.R.E. will participate in this great event.

Chuck Schoen, First Officer
VETERANS C.A.R.E., Redwood Empire
Rohnert Park

LETTERS

Thanks From Food Bank

★ Thank you, San Francisco, for donating so generously to the San Francisco AIDS Foundation's Food Bank during the holidays. Because of your support, we were able to give turkeys, hams and other holiday goodies to the men and women with AIDS and ARC who come to our offices for assistance. This year, we were able to offer food for their pets, as well.

We have a tough year ahead of us. The Food Bank is still totally community-sponsored (we receive no government funds) and we've been distributing over \$10,000 worth of food per month. Not only do we need to keep up that momentum, but we need to be prepared for an increase in the number of people that need our help. We hope that you will think of us often and donate a can of food — or a bag of food — whenever you can. Believe me, all of your donations make a difference, no matter how small. Encourage your co-workers, friends and family to do food drives throughout the year. We can all raise food for people with AIDS/ARC and have fun at the same time! And, finally, if you have a car and would like to commit yourself to a weekend day collecting food for us, give me a call at 864-4376.

Thanks again for being such a generous and creative community.

Cary Norsworthy
Food Bank Coordinator
San Francisco

Bimbos and Zeros

★ In response to Cassandra Cooke's open letter to John Canalli of the Gay Cable Network (B.A.R., 1/29/87):

Ya can't please everyone, Cass. John and I had a good laugh over your letter, since my appearances as host of "The Right Stuff" on GCN have provoked more positive response than those of any other host in GCN's one-year history.

A performer likes to think his appeal is universal. Yet it's really all right that my material went over your head. The audience I'm after isn't really the type who evokes "Leave It To Beaver" as a literary reference. It also isn't some tired bimbo who, rather than adjusting to her given name (no doubt something along the lines of "Judi" — with a heart over the "i"), adopts a bogus Shakespearean moniker like "Cassandra," for Chrissake.

And finally, please — don't feel compelled to respond to this letter in hopes of establishing some sort of rancorous weekly exchange. In a battle of the wits, toots, you're only half-armed. You and your fellow whining aesthetic zeros are best advised to stay in front of the tube and away from the written word. In your case, mere ownership of a pen puts you way out of your league.

Happy viewing!

Mario "Mercutio" Mondelli
San Francisco

The Inter Club Fund

★ As the recently-elected chairman of the ICF, I would like to take the opportunity to thank the community for their support in the past year.

Our "Folsom Follies" was a great success, thanks to so many volunteers.

Henry Novak is leaving the ICF after many years of hard work due to his job relocation and will be greatly missed.

I would like to let the public know that the Empress of San Francisco found the time to raise over \$550 for the ICF. Thank you, Sable.

Rich Demerest was elected as an independent rep to the ICF. Michael John Haas was elected treasurer, Jerry Albert as recording secretary, Warren Cave as corresponding secretary.

Our meetings are open to the public and are at 8 p.m. on the third Tuesday of each month — at the Chez Mollet, 527 Bryant St. Please join us.

Rocky Rockwood
San Francisco

Love Your Neighbor

★ This letter was sent to the San Francisco Chronicle.

By calling Robert Cromey a bigot you have reduced discussion which is critically important to the level of name-calling. With thousands, even millions, of gay and lesbian persons subject to personal injury, denial of civil rights and equal status with all other persons, there is a seriousness to this business of the Pope and homosexuals which you obviously have missed.

A bigot is intolerant and hypocritical. Robert Cromey's editorial was neither. He rightly points to the many values of the Roman Catholic Church in

general, as well as to the many values of the present Pope with which every decent person can agree. His argument that the Pope should stay home rests not on bigotry (an unreasoned, unloving rejection) but upon a clear analysis of anti-gay bigotry, one of the chief architects of which is clearly the Roman Catholic pontiff.

It will not do in this matter for religious authorities to claim an ancient basis for their hatred of homosexual persons. We have lived with such claims through wars and holocausts, slavery and anti-intellectual book burnings. It matters not at all that a person once said, "Male and female made He them, in the image of God He created them." It does not matter that Paul may have been anti-gay, or that there is a history in some places of the Christian Church with a tradition of mistreating lesbians and gay men as witches. All of that is swept away by the single Christian precept, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself."

There is, in fact, no religious basis for the Pope's anti-gay hatred, just as there is no intellectual basis for it. It arises from an irrational and unloving mindset which is willing to abuse living persons in the name of some outdated and not originally very useful religious prejudice. The amply demonstrated hatred of the Roman Catholic hierarchy for the civil rights of lesbian and gay persons must be rejected by any thoughtful person in light of a modern principle which is absolutely crucial to moving the human race beyond the tyrannies which have scarred its history. That principle is that all persons are created equal and all have an equal dignity. Only the adherence to this principle will carry us beyond petty name-calling or more sinister consequences of religious fanaticism.

Because the Pope cannot accept the equal dignity of homosexual persons with himself, any dialogue is impossible. He should stay home, study the words of Jesus, consult his heart and, when he has been converted, come to San Francisco in the name of the Prince of Peace and the King of Love.

Richard Kerr
San Francisco

Facts And Truth

★ Having just enjoyed the film *The Gods Must Be Crazy* for the second time, I feel compelled to speak in defense of its writer and producer, Jamie Uys, who was picketed when he spoke in San Francisco recently on the asserted ground that the film is racist.

I don't doubt the good intentions of the pickets, but I cannot believe that anyone could view this film as racist. To the contrary, the Bushmen, of whom the main character, Xi, is a member, are described by the narrator as "gentle," "graceful," and "inventive," having no concept of anger, jealousy, or punishment. They are depicted as a culture to be emulated and admired, not belittled and despised.

Being a comedy in the slapstick vein, the film shows virtually every character, black and white, as clumsy and bumbling. Different characters are shown to be variously goodhearted, evil, cunning, simple-minded, intelligent, weak, and powerful, all without regard to race. Although the Bushmen are shown to be ignorant of the aspects of so-called "civilization" (both black and white), that ignorance is never equated with stupidity or lack of intelligence; it is merely a comedic variation of the old "country mouse/city mouse" fable and, as anyone who is minimally familiar with Bush culture can attest, is indeed rooted in fact.

How sad that some would decry such a sensitive, entertaining film about clashing cultures for no apparent good reason, other than that it was made by a person who happens to be a white South African (one who, incidentally, has publicly stated his personal disapproval of apartheid). Those who wish to protest racism — and I count myself firmly among them — would do better to look to Forsyth County, Howard Beach, and elsewhere in our own backyards, and to vigorously protest the system of apartheid itself. In the meantime, I am looking forward to the release of the sequel to *The Gods Must Be Crazy* and intend to see it. If anyone pickets it, I will confront them with facts and truth.

Jeffrey J. Schmidt
San Francisco

Hulkamania

★ The genius of Sister Boom-Boom is needed — the Pope is coming.

It must be remembered that His Holiness is a sacred cow due all respect. He is the bankroll of Mother Teresa, deserving our cheers of acclamation.

To insure peace the Vatican has admitted John Paul has experienced natural nocturnal emissions.

The unmentionable social fashion of S.F. shall heretofore be referred to as Hulk A Mania.

John Paul too has Hulkamania and such enthusiasm shall thus be on-cored, respectfully,

Leander Duhring
San Francisco

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Photos by Richard Law

Favorite Sons

Advisers to Gov. George Deukmejian, including state GOP chair Clare Burgener, have been urging the Duke to enter California's 1988 Republican presidential primary as a favorite son. California Republicans will send 180 delegates to their New Orleans convention and Deukmejian's people feel such a favorite son candidacy would give the delegation more power at the convention as well as keep the governor's shot at a vice-presidential nomination alive.

The committee to re-elect Arlo Smith is having a kick-off reception for the respected district attorney on Feb. 17 at the Forest Hill Club, 381 Magellan Avenue (cocktails and hors d'oeuvres, 6-8 p.m., \$50, Kathryn Moir at 956-5303 for info).

Dr. Otis R. Bowen, federal Secretary of Health and Human Services, told the National Press Club in D.C. last week that "a worldwide AIDS epidemic will become so serious that it will dwarf such earlier medical disasters as the Black Plague, smallpox, and typhoid. You haven't heard or read anything yet. If we can't make progress, we face the dreadful prospect of a worldwide death toll in the tens of millions a decade from now."

Acknowledging that educating the public about how to keep from getting AIDS has "provoked its share of controversy," Bowen said the effort still remains the most potent weapon against the spread of the deadly disease.

In Sacramento last week, the Senate Education Committee unanimously approved a bill (S.B. 136) by Sen. Gary Hart (D-

Santa Barbara) to require an AIDS prevention videotape or film to be shown to all junior and senior high school students.

Reaction was overwhelmingly negative last week to the announcement that the late Rep. Sala Burton and others were anointing Nancy Pelosi as Burton's successor in the upcoming special election. Lt. Gov. Leo McCarthy and former Congressman John Burton had already endorsed Pelosi before Rep. Burton's death and Assemblymen Willie Brown and Art Agnos are expected to do so shortly as well.

Given the negative public reaction, this race could be the last stand for the local political bosses. For those who aren't familiar with how the Democratic machine does business in this town, here's a recent example. As soon as the "leaders" (?) formally anointed Pelosi for the congressional seat, one major state official bluntly warned his gay aide that if he supports Harry Britt's candidacy, he will be promptly fired.

Not all were smiling at this past weekend's Democratic state convention in Sacramento. While most Democrats were publicly predicting their party was on its way to winning the White House next year and increasing their majorities in the legislature, as well as winning Sen. Pete Wilson's seat, the state's new registration records show something less than rosy.

Secretary of State March Fong Eu, sounding like the Democratic version of Chicken Little, bluntly told the convention delegates that "the sky is falling on the Democratic Party" in this

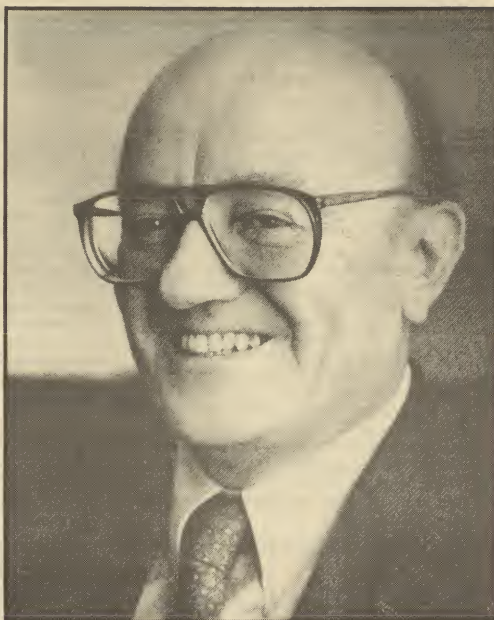
state. She warned her party that it is facing hard times in future elections unless the party registers many of the five million Californians who currently opt out of the system by not voting.

Eu also pointed out what few party people like to admit. Democrats in California make up a majority of congressional and legislative seats thanks only to crafty re-districting, and that if the state ever removes "deadwood" from its voter rolls, Democrats will be "exposed for what we really are — a minority party."

Pointing out that state Democrats now compose 50.8 percent of California voters, the lowest percentage in 53 years, Secretary Eu warned her fellow Democrats against basking in "the arrogant partisan glow" of Ronald Reagan's Iran troubles or recent Democratic party victories.

A former assemblywoman from Castro Valley, and an announced candidate for the U.S. Senate in 1988, Eu says, "We're in big trouble and we had better start admitting it." She suggested that voter registration and get-out-the-vote efforts made in 1984 and 1986 be greatly expanded.

Few political observers realized there was any love between Mayor Dianne Feinstein and Board President Nancy Walker, but an invitation resembling a Valentine arrived in the mail this week inviting us to attend a "Valentine's Reception in honor of Nancy G." at the Presidio Terrace home of Her Honor on Feb. 19. And some Valentine's party it is: \$250 per, includes cocktails, hors d'oeuvres, etc. (5:30-7:30, 861-8295 for info) and wear your heart on your sleeve.



The re-election campaign for district attorney Arlo Smith is about ready to begin.

The Democratic mayoral primary in Chicago has gay and lesbian voters torn between incumbent Mayor Harold Washington and former Mayor Jane Byrne, with Washington thought to have a slight edge among the city's gay activists.

Larry Liebert, D.C. bureau chief for the Chron, writing in the current issue of California Journal, has an excellent story on Merced congressman Tony Coelho, suggesting the bright, but brash young congressman is sure to be the next House Speaker. Current Speaker Jim Wright is already 64 and his second-in-command, Majority Leader Tom Foley, is 57 and reportedly holds no desire to be Speaker. Coelho is 44, is one of the party's best fundraisers and has many friends in San Francisco.

The topic of condom advertising on television will be the subject of congressional debate in Washington next week.

Sheriff Mike Hennessey expected to easily win a third term this year.

Politics make strange bedfellows? Speaker Willie Brown and longtime antagonist Clint Reilly, local campaign consultant, reportedly "kissed and made up" in Sacramento last weekend. As one longtime Demo activist put it, "Clint needs candidates to keep his organization afloat and Willie needs someone to help make party workers forget where his last 'political genius' (you remember Richie Ross, don't you?) took them. Ah yes, all's well that ends."

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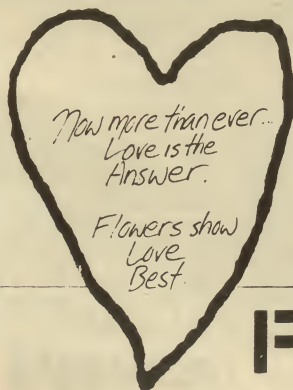
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Mike Hippler

First Love

Almost every gay person can pinpoint a time when he first came out to himself, when he finally accepted that he was gay—when he was 16, when he graduated from school, when he moved to the city, whenever.

Most gay people realize that they were gay long before that, however, and some can pinpoint a time when, even if they didn't admit it to themselves yet, in retrospect they knew they were gay. Maybe it was the time he first dressed in clothing of the opposite sex, or the time he spent an hour too long in the bathroom of the public library reading the graffiti. Maybe it was the time he was born.

For me, it was the time, at age 12, that I fell in love with Tommy.

Tommy and I met in the first grade, but I don't remember him making an impression until two years later, when we both had the same girlfriend, Beth. I knew her first, as I recall, but I wasn't much good at heterosexual love and botched things up, naturally. Beth went on to Tommy after that, and they were together for quite some time.

Beth will probably deny this version of the facts, but to this day she challenges every memory I have, so I never pay attention

anymore. I never really blamed Beth for dumping me, for Tommy was by far the better catch.

In comparison, Tommy and I were both intelligent. We were always at the head of the class, archivists for the top grades and the teacher's affection. Whereas I was a little too pretty, however, Tommy was extremely good-looking in an All-American sort of way. Also, Tommy played sports, which is something I never did (if I could help it). From the third grade on, from Pop Warner to the high school ranks, he was the quarterback of the football team, and he excelled at other sports besides. Face it—in a one-on-one, best-all-round competition with Tommy, I never had a chance.

That never really bothered me, for Tommy was easy to like—outgoing, personable, genuine. Thank God he was so likeable, for we were thrown together constantly. He lived right down the street and was always coming over to play. In addition, we belonged to about a trillion organizations together, among them Indian Y-Guys and the church choir.

The year we turned 12, the year I fell in love with Tommy, sex reared its fateful little head. We were studying math at my place

(Continued on page 22)

AIDS And The Nervous System

by Pat Christen

It is estimated that 40-75 percent of people with AIDS will experience neurological complications during the course of their illness. Increasingly, people are calling the AIDS Foundation hotline with questions about the neurological problems associated with AIDS. The following are questions most often heard on the hotline.

Q. What exactly do you mean by "neurological complications"?

A. In medicine, "complications" means that something has gone awry, or is not functioning at all. "Neurological" refers to the nerve cells in the body. In this case, neurological complications means that some of the body's nerve cells have been affected by AIDS and are not functioning properly, or have been destroyed completely.

Q. What causes the nervous system problems in AIDS?

A. Nervous system refers to all of the nerves in your body. The nerves are usually categorized in two main groups: the central nervous system (CNS) and the peripheral nervous system (PNS). The CNS is made up of the brain and spinal cord. The PNS is all of the rest of the nerves, like those in your arms, legs, hands and feet.

In AIDS, problems occur both within the CNS and the PNS because the AIDS virus can infect nerve cells and cause damage directly. The virus can also damage nerve cells indirectly by causing a condition where other diseases can develop, which in turn harm the nerves.

When the virus infects the nervous system directly and causes problems, it is referred to as a primary complication or primary infection. When other diseases brought on by the AIDS virus infection interfere with the nerves' functioning, the problems are called secondary complications or secondary infections.

Q. What are the opportunistic infections that can cause neurological problems?

A. There are several opportunistic infections that can wreak havoc on the nervous system. The main ones are toxoplasmosis, cryptococcal infections, cytomegalovirus, and herpes.

Toxoplasmosis is caused by a protozoan called *Toxoplasma gondii*. It is a very common organism. In fact, it is estimated that 50 percent of the U.S. population has been exposed to toxoplasmosis. In people with a

healthy, strong immune system, toxoplasmosis can exist in an inactive state and will not cause disease. However, in people with AIDS or other immune-suppressed people, toxoplasmosis becomes active because the immune system is so weak.

A person can be exposed to toxo by eating raw meat which contains the toxoplasmosis protozoa, or from handling cat feces. For this reason, people with AIDS should avoid cleaning cat litter boxes, and may want to avoid eating such foods as sushi, steak tartare or sashimi.

In immunosuppressed individuals, toxoplasmosis may cause brain infections which can become very serious. Initial symptoms may include seizures, confusion, headaches, and dizziness.

Q. What about cryptococcal infections?

A. Cryptococcal infections are fungal infections. Like the toxo protozoa, the cryptococcal fungus is common in the environment. It is known to grow well in pigeon droppings.

A person is usually infected with cryptococcus by breathing in small dust particles carrying the fungus. However, even though the route of entrance into the body is through the lungs, cryptococcus does not remain in the lungs and may not even cause lung infections.

In people with AIDS, cryptococcus causes the greatest danger when it migrates to the meninges. The meninges is a thin membrane or covering which protects the brain and spinal cord.

Cryptococcal meningitis, a disease seen in people with AIDS, means that an infection of the meninges has occurred and that infection is caused by cryptococcus.

The symptoms of cryptococcal meningitis vary dramatically from person to person and can include severe headaches, vision problems, dizziness, confusion, seizures, memory changes and irritability.

Q. Does cytomegalovirus act in a similar way to cause nervous system disorders in people with AIDS?

A. Actually CMV is an extremely common infection among PWAs. It is also very common for healthy people with perfectly adequate immune systems to have had a CMV infection at some point in their lives. For example, CMV is one of the causes of a mononucleosis-like illness.

It is not exactly clear how CMV is transmitted, but since it is found in body fluids like semen and urine, it probably requires fairly intimate contact for the virus to be passed from one person to another.

CMV is related to the herpes virus family. And just as with herpes, CMV can remain dormant—inactive—in a person indefinitely, never causing symptoms of any kind. It can also flare up or become activated suddenly, like herpes.

In people with AIDS, CMV causes neurological complications because it is able to infect the brain, resulting in encephalitis, a disease or infection of the brain. To date, there are no proven treatments for CMV infections.

Q. What about treatments for the other diseases you described?

A. There are treatments for cryptococcal meningitis and toxoplasmosis. But they are treatments *only*, not cures. The treatment for cryptococcal meningitis includes two drugs—5-flucytosine and amphotericin-B. Both of these drugs require very close medical supervision.

Toxoplasmosis is also treated with a combination of two drugs, pyrimethamine and sulfadiazine. Again, close medical attention is warranted.

Q. Does the AIDS virus actually infect nerve cells and reproduce them, like it does in T-cells?

A. Yes. There is now evidence that the AIDS virus not only invades nerve cells, but is also capable of reproducing within them. Research studies have been done in which new viruses were seen "budding off" or breaking away from nerve cells that had been infected.

Q. How can my doctor tell if my brain has been damaged by the virus or by any of the other opportunistic infections?

A. Well, one of the first signs is apt to be one of the symptoms I mentioned, like headaches, dizziness, difficulty walking or remembering things. People with neurological complications do not always have obvious symptoms like that, but they often do.

Then, if you are having some of those symptoms, your doctor may order a CAT scan or another test called an MRI. CAT stands for computerized axial tomography. It's sort of like a glorified x-ray.

MRI means magnetic resonance imagery. The MRI seems to be a better test for locating any brain lesions or areas where nerve damage has occurred. Apparently, the MRI has become the preferred test because it is much better at spotting the abnormalities in the brain that the CAT scan can miss altogether.

Even with a positive MRI—that is, an MRI that shows nerve damage—it is practically impossible to determine whether the damage is caused by toxo or cryp-

tococcus, a direct AIDS virus infection, or some other organism. In most cases, a biopsy or spinal tap may need to be done to identify which agent was causing the damage. But that is a decision you need to make with your doctor.

Q. What should you do if you think you have neurological problems from AIDS?

A. Go see your doctor.

Thanks to Dr. Richard Mans for his help in providing information for this article.

Gay Latin Caucus Formed

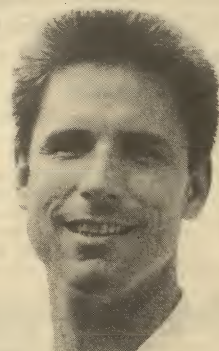
The first national organization created to support lesbian and gay latina/o issues has been announced. Currently, it is recruiting new members, establishing a national Steering Committee, and pulling together a comprehensive mailing list. A core group GLLU (Gay and Lesbian Latinos Unidos) and other community activists are hosting the First National Lesbian and Gay Latina/o Caucus to be held in Los Angeles on the weekend of Feb. 14-15.

There is a minimal fee of \$20 for the caucus although no one will be turned away for lack of funds. To receive information concerning this exciting new project, please call Laura Esquivel at (213) 383-6202.

Registration is limited.

SHANTI HAS CHANGED MY LIFE

Greg George
Shanti Volunteer



In the year before I volunteered for Shanti I had symptoms that made me suspect that I might be coming down with AIDS. I experienced fear, helplessness, despair, and isolation. Isolation was the hardest for me to bear. I was unable to communicate what was

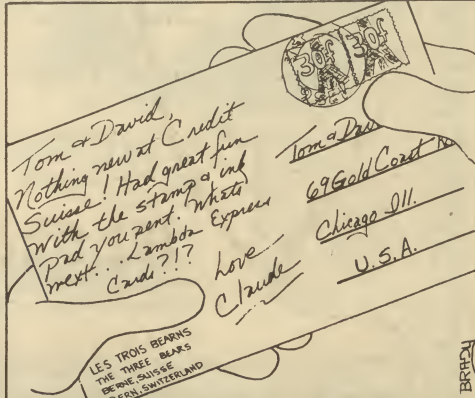
going on with me. I was alone with these fears. Those around me were unwilling to get past their own fears in order to support me. Later, when my good health was restored, I decided to give others what I needed at that time—contact with a caring human being.



Volunteers needed. Call today for more information.

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LIFE AT THE CLOSET DOOR



'Theocratic 32': Take Note

WELLINGTON, New Zealand—Perhaps we should send those 32 California legislators opposed to a balanced sex education program to New Zealand. They should talk with N.Z. high school students who seem to have their act together a lot more than the Yanks.

The Wellington Medical Research Foundation conducted a recent symposium. The foundation found out that Wellington high school students have demanded better sex education programs.

The symposium's chairman, Prof. Ralph Johnson of the Wellington Clinical School, said that many of the 300 senior pupils who attended, criticized the system of sex education in schools. The students said there was an urgent

need for clearer development of sex education programs. The students added that they felt parents were poorly informed about many sexual diseases and problems related to sex.

Comments from the pupils implied that sex education in previous generations had produced poorly informed adults with little knowledge of sexually-transmitted diseases and who had difficulties in talking to their children.

Johnson said pupils also commented on the need for teachers to be able to discuss sexual matters, including AIDS. There should be sex education kits, and more sex education as part of social studies, they said.

—*Out! of Auckland, New Zealand*

Catholic Priest Blasts The Pope

AUCKLAND, New Zealand—A liberal Catholic priest in New Zealand blasted Pope John Paul II's views on gay people. Dr. Felix Donnelly, who lectures on sexuality at Auckland Medical School, said that the Vatican's recent statement about homosexuality is "pathetic."

Donnelly said that while most gay Catholics would ignore the Vatican's hard line against the gay lifestyle, he is concerned for those entrenched in their faith.

Donnelly said that the church's supposed compassion was mindless in that it was not true compassion. He said that it was working from a power base trying to control the lives of people who have no choice about either sexual preference.

Out! of Auckland, New Zealand

Post Ombudsman Gets A 'Critique'

WASHINGTON—Internal squabbling erupted recently at one of the nation's most respected newspapers, the Washington Post. Post ombudsman Joseph Laitin created the flap when he referred to the late New Right leader, Terry Dolan, as a "flaming gay" in his weekly in-house memorandum which critiques the paper's news stories.

The remark didn't get past anyone, let alone Greg Brock, a gay night city editor at the Post. Brock fired off a memo to Laitin, calling the remark a "stereotypical insulting and hurtful comment that has no place in an internal memo at The Washington Post."

At first, Laitin tried to calm down Brock, but when four female reporters at the paper criticized him, he saw the error of his ways and printed an apology in his next in-house memorandum.

—*The Washington Blade*

Top Cop's Teens Get Probation For Assault

WASHINGTON—For years, Theodore L. Carr III, and his brother, Byron G. Carr, lived in full knowledge of the justice system. Early last month, the two teenage sons of Prince George's County Deputy Police Chief Theodore Carr were taken to task by the justice system for an assault on a gay man.

The Carr brothers were sentenced to a year of probation and 60 hours of community service work after they pleaded guilty to simple assault, a misdemeanor, in exchange for the government's agreement to terminate a grand jury investigation which could have led to a more serious felony count.

The Carrs were arrested about 4 a.m. on Sept. 27 for robbery with force and violence, which is a felony. The Carrs and two other youths allegedly grabbed a gold chain from a man in the P Street Beach, causing a scuffle when the man attempted to get his chain back.

The U.S. Attorney's office dropped the felony charge two days after the arrest. This action caused unrest among gay activists, who charged the U.S. Attorney's office with giving the Carr sons special leniency. The accusation was denied by a spokesman for U.S. Attorney Joseph di Genova.

—*The Washington Blade*

AIDS Research Gets Support From Blown Lines

HOLLYWOOD — Joel Brooks, who plays J.D. Lucas on the CBS-TV series *My Sister Sam*, is asking fellow actors who blow a line during filming of the series to pay for their mistakes by making a donation to the Center for AIDS Research.

—*The Philadelphia Gay News*

'Marriage' Not Always Necessary, Says Minister

HOUSTON — Rev. Larry Uhrig, pastor of Metropolitan Community Church of Washington, D.C., and an author of books dealing with gay and lesbian relationships, says he has changed some of his ideas about relationships.

Uhrig, in Houston recently for a winter spiritual renewal, said he no longer thinks a formal blessing of a relationship is significant, though church unions are "appropriate" for people of faith.

According to Uhrig, one of the problems with some individuals is that "they are socially scripted to do what our parents did. Many make choices based on cultural values," he added.

Uhrig said he has performed only one holy union ceremony in the last year. He said most of his colleagues are not performing ceremonies any more.

The change in attitude is quite a switch for the bearded minister. He is the author of *The Two of Us* and *Sex Positive*, two books that dealt with the spiritual aspects of gay and lesbian relationships.

—*The Montrose Voice of Houston*

Medical Group Urges 'Blood Enlistment' Drive

LAKE SUCCESS, N.Y.—The Medical Society of the State of New York is urging some 18,000 of its downstate members to encourage patients to help alleviate a growing shortage of blood.

In its Dec. 31 newsletter to member physicians, The News of New York, the Medical Society inserted a waiting room poster that describes the need for blood in the treatment of cancer, heart disease, hemophilia, severe burns and other ailments. The poster urges donors to call a toll-free number, 1-800-NYBLOOD, to arrange for donations.

The poster, prepared by the Medical Society and the Greater New York Blood Program of the American Red Cross and New

York Blood Center, makes the point that, "Giving blood is safe. You cannot get AIDS or any other disease by giving blood. All materials used for your blood donation are new, sterile, disposable and used only once."

The newsletter also contains a copy of a pamphlet about blood donation, "Facts, Fears and Fantasies." Physicians are being urged to order the booklet to pass out to patients in their offices.

The appeal comes at a time when participating organizations in the blood program say that supplies are dangerously low in the greater New York area.

—*PR Newswire*

LaRouchies Try For Chicago Alderman Race

CHICAGO — The LaRouchies are at it again. After taking a walloping in most elections across the country last year, the ultra-conservative group is fighting again to get on ballots, this time in Chicago's February Alderman elections.

In an ad in the Windy City Times, Nancy Kaszak—a candidate for Alderman in the 46th Ward—warned Chicagoans in her district of the danger posed by Gerald Pechenuk. Kaszak claimed that Pechenuk is "working closely with one-time candidate for Illinois Secretary of State Janice Hart, and her husband, Robert."

—*The Windy City Times of Chicago*

Nancy Honig at Alice

Nancy Honig will speak at the Alice B. Toklas Lesbian/Gay Democratic Club meeting at the Women's Building, 3543 18th St. at Valencia, San Francisco, on Monday, Feb. 9, at 8 p.m. She will speak on what must be done to save public education in California. Honig is the wife of state schools superintendent Bill Honig.

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Funding for this message provided by the San Francisco Department of Public Health.

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Neal Smith, second from l., displays boxes of ribavirin to Customs agent at the border.
(B.A.R. Photo)

Ribavirin

(Continued from page 1)

In between was an imaginary line, nothing but a concept really, called the border. Like the semipermeable membrane of a cell, this amorphous boundary accepted entry of some things — rejected entry of others.

Which would we be today?

Neal Smith stepped up to the Customs agent. The agent asked matter-of-factly, "Citizenship?"

"I'm declaring ribavirin. A drug for AIDS. I have 25 boxes," Smith said, spilling blue-and-white cartons from his backpack onto the counter. In his anxiety Smith did not realize that his answer did not relate directly to the question. But in the surreality of U.S. policy toward AIDS drugs, the question did relate.

The man in the green uniform poked through the boxes, nodded, and waved Neal through.

★ ★ ★

Ten days earlier, at this Customs station on the border in San Ysidro, the semipermeable membrane of the United States of America stiffened. For several days, some of the people carrying ribavirin were seen as invaders, and rejected.

It happened but it's over. Apparently the momentary seizing of the anti-viral drug ribavirin at the border has ended. No one knows why it began and no one knows why it ended — except for Customs, which won't say.

Jerry Martin won't say. Jerry Martin is in charge here. He is the deputy district director of U.S. Customs, and thus oversees the operation of the border station at San Ysidro.

Martin was said to have issued a memo last week reiterating the federal policy on ribavirin. The policy is to allow individuals to bring in up to 300 capsules.

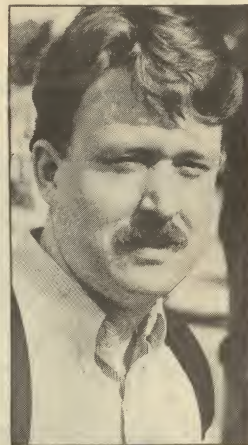
Why was the memo necessary? Why wasn't the policy being followed 10 days ago — as it had been for the previous year and a half?

Martin wouldn't take my phone call. He referred me to Mike Fleming in Los Angeles, who is a public information officer for Customs.

For three days, Fleming refused to return my telephone inquiries.

★ ★ ★

"When I found out I was antibody positive it was like being punched in the stomach," Neal Smith said. That was in August. By December, "I received my diagnosis of ARC. Even with all the knowledge I have, it snow-



... I felt angry —
angry about the
FDA's policy. I felt
anger ... and I felt
sad. —Michael Lee

ball on me. I couldn't believe the stress.

"I decided to use experimental drugs out of a strongly felt need for action," Smith said. "Over the past three years I have seen a number of my friends follow the path of getting sicker and sicker: antibody positive, ARC, AIDS, dying; and I have seen a lack of action there. I refuse to go that route.

"I have geared myself for a

holistic approach toward my own health. Diet, stress — meditation is very important to me. But viruses are fought with drugs. I need an anti-viral medication to keep that virus in its place. I can't fight the virus with prayer alone," Smith said.

★ ★ ★

Ribavirin: Is it a prayer or a medicine? Does it boost the immune system or only the spirit?

Ribavirin is an anti-viral drug invented in 1970 and legally sold today in 16 nations. That list of nations does not include, as has been misreported here and elsewhere, the countries of Western Europe. The nations which have licensed ribavirin have low regulation of medication, and are in South America and the Middle East.

Ribavirin has some type of interaction with the AIDS virus but we don't know why. The federal government itself announced this finding in December 1984. The Centers for Disease Control indicated ribavirin should get "expedited" treatment as a target of research for anti-AIDS therapy, after it was shown that the drug kills the AIDS virus in a laboratory setting.

The federal government has done no research on ribavirin since then. Zero. That's "expedited" treatment.

The maker of ribavirin, ICN Pharmaceuticals of Costa Mesa, California, has done research, under the supervision of the fed-

(Continued on page 16)



At the U.S.-Mexican border.

(B.A.R. Photo)



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Barney Frank To Address Gay PAC Conference

WESPAC, an umbrella group of West Coast gay and lesbian political action committees, has announced that Rep. Barney Frank (D-MA) will be the keynote speaker for a conference of PAC representatives in Southern California, Feb. 13, 14 and 15.

Rep. Frank will also participate in a panel discussion regarding legislative issues facing the gay and lesbian community. In addition, the panel will include Rand Martin, LIFE (Lobby for Individual Freedom and Equality) lobbyist in Sacramento, Vic Basile, executive director of the Human Rights Campaign Fund, and a presentation by California State Sen. David Roberti, President Pro Tem of the California Senate. Sheila Kuhl, a law professor at Loyola University, will also provide a perspective on women's issues.

A panel on fundraising, with David Mixner, a Los Angeles po-

litical consultant, Jean O'Leary, of National Gay Rights Advocates, Dick Pabich, who was the Northern California Fundraising Chair for the recent No On 64 campaign, and Sean Stub, a New York direct-mail advertising expert, has been scheduled for Saturday.

PAC representatives will also be able to trade insights and experiences in a series of seminars dealing with such topics as reporting requirements for treasurers, building a board, and general organizational issues.

WESPAC has also planned a Saturday luncheon honoring California Assemblyman Art Agnos

sands of people may hope to remain in relatively good health for at least six more months if treated with ribavirin. All U.S. AIDS/ARC related studies of ribavirin have shown at least some degree of benefit.

"The FDA has already certified its safety in the current clinical trials. Whether it works for everyone or not is irrelevant. There is solid reason to believe that it can help at least some people and won't hurt anyone," stated Project Inform.

"The only logical choice, in the absence of any better alternatives, is to make it available now, without waiting for two more years of studies. If this does not happen, how many more of us will progress to AIDS? Who will be responsible?"

★ ★ ★

It is 511 miles from the corner of Castro and Market to the Mexican border at San Ysidro. We made the trip in 48 hours in Neal Smith's pickup.

Two friends of Neal's who do not have AIDS came along to offer Neal emotional support.

One of Neal's friends, Michael Lee, was disgusted at the situation which forces people who have a life-threatening disease to travel to a foreign nation for help.

"I am real angry about going down there. There were many points during the trip when I felt angry — angry about the FDA's policy. I felt anger . . . and I felt sad.

"But I believe strongly that it

for his contributions to gay and lesbian rights. A reception hosted by GOAL (Government Operated by an Accountable Leadership, a Palm Springs PAC) on Friday night will open the conference.

PACs attending the conference include ECCO, the Elections Committee of the County of Orange, from Laguna Beach, California; MECLA, the Municipal Elections Committee of Los Angeles; the Bay Area Non-Partisan Alliance, from San Francisco; BAYMEC, the Bay Area Municipal Elections Committee, from San Jose; CIRCLPAC, a statewide California group; USDEC, from San Diego; the Right To Privacy PAC from Oregon; and the Dorian Group, from Seattle.

The conference will be held at the Royce Resort Hotel, in Cathedral City, California, near Palm Springs.

Michael Hall, a San Francisco attorney, is chair of the Planning Committee for the conference. For more information about WESPAC or the conference, call at (415) 864-1900.

is important to take some kind of positive action," Lee said. "If I were diagnosed, I would do it."

The crowning irony of the trip was standing in the "American Pharmacy" on Third near Constitution in Tijuana watching the price go up. We had been promised 30 boxes of ribavirin at \$24 a box and were told to return an hour later, when the supply came in.

But with the arrival of the new supply came a new government price list. The maximum price of ribavirin was increased to 31,000 pesos — almost \$33 — per box of 12 capsules. That is ten times the maximum price of 3,170 pesos per box allowed as late as last summer.

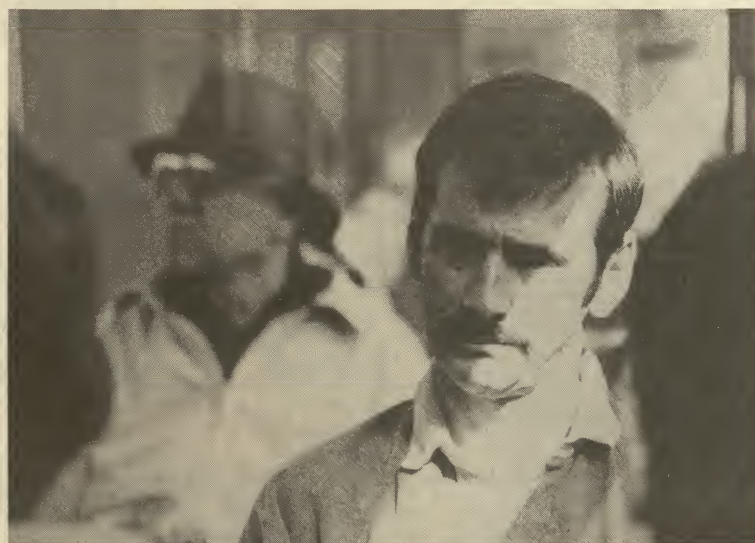
Even as we stood there, the pharmacist was sticking the new price stickers on the little blue-and-white cartons, shaking his head as Neal Smith argued with him in anger and despair.

In the end, Neal and the pharmacist split the difference and settled at \$28 a box.

★ ★ ★

Said Neal after it was all over, "This is the way it is done right now and this is the way to do it. This is my access to something which may save my life. That means I just do it.

"I do not believe ribavirin will be available here in this country within two months, or even longer. There is just too much going on," Smith said.



While traveling on the San Diego Trolley to the border, Neal Smith's anxiety mounts.

(B.A.R. Photo)



KRON-TV.

(Photo: Savage Photography)

Slanting Facts

Does Media Cover Gay Community As If It Was A Circus With A Disease?

by Jay Newquist

As the crowds march up Market Street, cameras covering the Lesbian and Gay Freedom Day Parade focus on a roller-skating man wearing a tutu and waving a magic wand. Behind him, a contingent of gay and lesbian teachers carrying signs demanding justice is ignored.

The above is an example of what critics call the biased coverage that gay community events receive in Bay Area media. They complain that there isn't enough gay content in local news broadcasts and what little does reach the air often just exploits stereotypes. An exception is AIDS-related coverage, which many consider thorough and compassionate.

There is no shortage of opinion about coverage of local gay news no matter what one's viewing perspective in front of or behind the little box.

KPIX-TV and KRON-TV say they don't have negative attitudes against homosexuals in their news programs. Neither station has a news policy per se for gay-related coverage because they say they don't need it.

KGO-TV, generally regarded as the worst local station for gay-related news, refused recently to discuss its coverage of the gay

community. A spokesman said in a brief statement that all people or groups were "treated fairly" in its news reporting.

"The news tends to be awfully sensationalized and takes the stereotypical approach to gay and lesbian life," says Steve Rascher of the Golden Gate Business Association.

"It concentrates on fringe groups that often show the extremes rather than mainstream gay life. It concentrates on bizarre costumes and the wild behavior at the gay parade rather than on other marchers who aren't as noticeable."

Mike Telly, assignment editor at KRON, said that news cameras tended to concentrate on the more colorful floats at the parade. "It's the nature of news to pick out the extremes, but we have other content that focuses on the important issues, like the political clout of the gay community."

Kelly said the definition of news changes from day to day depending on the nature and sequence of events. No policy for gay coverage was needed, he said, because gay news fell under the general goal to cover all the news fairly and objectively.

John Raftrey, managing editor at KPIX, echoed KRON when he said any story stands on its own merits and its broadcast depended on the many vicissitudes of the news business.

Raftrey said that KPIX, which is widely respected for its work with the San Francisco AIDS Foundation, has broadcast AIDS-related spinoff stories that otherwise would not have been covered, including an analysis of the insurance industry.

It appears the news hook of the gay community for the broadcast media remains the AIDS crisis. KPIX, for one, is adapting to the

(Continued on next page)

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KPIX-TV.

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Festival

(Continued from page 3)

women's music festivals may be in jeopardy. Consulting attorney Susan McCreivey notes that the festivals provide more than three days of outstanding entertainment, although they certainly do that and do it well. Along with music and comedy, women attending the West Coast festival have an enormous variety of workshops and educational forums to choose from.

"The festival challenges the patriarchy," McCreivey states. "It's one of the few remaining feminist forums where young lesbians can go to get an education about our community's political and cultural history. It would be a terrible loss if we had to close down."

Whether Tyler's efforts will be successful remains to be seen. Community leaders including Del Martin, Phyllis Lyon, Roberto Esteves and Rachael Ginsberg, as well as the National Organization for Women, have rallied to support her and will be on hand when the Park and Recreation committee votes on the settlement.

If the committee rejects Tyler's proposal, further action is planned to continue with the anti-discrimination lawsuit and to gather support from San Francisco's lesbian and gay communities. •



'Whether (Robin) Tyler's efforts will be successful remains to be seen. Community leaders including Phyllis Lyon and Del Martin (above) . . . have rallied to support her . . .'

(Photo: Rink)

17th Street

(Continued from page 3)

Reiko True, director of the city's mental health programs, agreed with Foster that the cuts would not be made at the expense of gay counseling services. "You can forget about 17th Street," said True. "That is certainly a clinic that is doing important work. So we reassessed the issue and decided that it was not prudent. We were told that it was very important for those people to stay at 17th Street."

But the city's mental health program is still short \$3 million, according to True. Unlike Foster's claims about Mt. Zion being closed, True said the city could save money by encouraging the

creation of more halfway houses for the mentally disturbed. "We have to develop halfway houses here in San Francisco rather than sending people out of town," said True.

Foster's assessment that something in the city mental health program will have to be cut may be closer to the facts. "Something's got to give," said Foster, "and whatever gives is going to be bad."

The gay oriented counseling services that apparently won't be axed or moved to another location to save the money the city needs are important ones. They include the counseling provided along with anonymous HIV testing, psychological evaluation of AIDS patients, and other mental health counseling services for

gay men and lesbians.

Denning described the team that the original budget-cutting plan from the Health Commission would have disbanded. "We're the designated gay and lesbian team for the city and have been for 15 years. And more and more of our clients have been affected by AIDS."

Foster insisted, however, that had cuts been made at Health Center #1 non-AIDS-related mental health counseling would have been shifted to Operation Concern and their staff would have been augmented to deal with the increased caseload. He said AIDS-related counseling would not have been shifted from 17th Street. •

Media

(Continued from previous page)

general demand for increased coverage of the health crisis.

Raftrey reported that a KPIX reporter who covers the medical aspect of AIDS has been joined by a second reporter who will cover the social impacts of the disease.

AIDS may remain the most significant issue in and out of the community, but is it the sole concern of gays and lesbians?

Operation Concern's Carole Migden said less dramatic worries were also worthy of coverage, but she said the gay community had to pressure the media to provide more gay content.

"We have to get more involved instead of simply giving them a broadside. We need to sit down with them in small groups and discuss it."

Migden said it was crucial that local broadcasters improve their contacts with the gay and lesbian community to include a cross-section of viewpoints. "All of us don't think alike just because we're gay and not everyone is a responsible person just because he or she is gay."

Rascher agreed. He said the unique character of the gay community made it tough for the media to be objective and we had

an obligation to enter the process.

"We accept diversity and encourage it, but a lot of the more wild behavior isn't representative of the entire community."

Is local TV news coverage of the gay community likely to increase or improve in 1987?

Both KRON and KPIX will have new news directors in January with the departures of Mike Ferring and Bruno Cohen, respectively.

John Raftrey of KPIX said a news director "set the tone," but was not heavily involved with the day to day process of story assignments and news gathering.

At KRON, Mike Kelly didn't comment on the replacement of Ferring, but he said the station's coverage of AIDS in the new year should bring more gay-related issues before the viewers.

He was referring specifically to recent reporting about routine discrimination faced by gay men and lesbian women based on sexual preference.

"Our contacts with the gay community have been fairly good and it's easier to cover than some subjects because gay people have opinions and are willing to speak their minds," he said.

CCBA's Rascher said the community doesn't necessarily want a special policy or special treatment for gays and lesbians. "We

would simply like each incident to be judged fairly and objectively."

Carole Migden of Operation Concern said the community would have to shape the coverage that was appropriate, assist the broadcast media in their work and provide a reasoned rebuttal.

"We can't (always) be cry babies, it doesn't solve a thing," she said. •

Feminist Scholar At Sha'ar Zahav

Drora Setel, a leading feminist Jewish thinker and writer, will speak on The Power of Liturgy and the Liturgy of Power at Shabbat evening services on Friday, Feb. 13, at Congregation Sha'ar Zahav, 220 Danvers at Caselli in San Francisco beginning at 8:15 p.m.

Setel, currently rabbinic assistant at Temple Emanu El of Beverly Hills, has studied at Leo Baeck Rabbinical College in London and holds Masters degrees from the Harvard Divinity School and the London School of Economics.

Congregation Sha'ar Zahav is a Reform synagogue of over 300 members with a special outreach to the gay and lesbian community. For further information, contact Rabbi Yoel Kahn, 861-6932. •

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Steve Perkins believes that sexually transmitted bacteria are also spread by hygienic neglect and misunderstanding. For his published research, *Enemas: Gay Hygiene Daily* (and color photos) send \$10 to Steve Perkins, 1226 Haight Street, San Francisco, CA 94117. Phone Consultations \$30 (1 hr.) call (415) 864-8597.

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DEATHS

Dean A. Doolittle-Sandmire

Dean Sandmire passed away during the morning of Jan. 31 after a valiant and courageous fight against AIDS. During the 36 months that Dean fought the disease, he took an active part in many organizations which were supportive of people with AIDS/ARC including Mobilization Against AIDS and the People With AIDS Alliance. Indeed, Dean became nationally respected for his untiring efforts to educate the public about AIDS and ARC and to secure funding for research, treatment and patient care.



For many years also, Dean devoted much time to working with his father, the Rev. Elder James E. Sandmire, the pastor of Golden Gate Metropolitan Community Church in the continuing struggle for the liberation and equal treatment of lesbians, gay men and bisexuals.

Dean died peacefully in his home while being cared for by his father and his devoted friend, Richard Severson. He is survived also by his brother, James Earl III, and his sister, Kimberly.

Dean's family wishes to thank the many friends and AIDS/ARC organizations' staff and medical personnel who meant so much to him. In particular they are: People With AIDS Alliance, The AIDS Foundation, Mobilization Against AIDS, Hospice, Ward 86 and Ward 5A at S.F. General Hospital, The Visiting Nurses' Association and Shanti. They remember with special gratitude the faithful work of Dean's Shanti practical support person, Bob McCarthy, and the loving help and counsel of his Shanti support counselor, Helen Page.

A memorial service was held on Tuesday evening, Feb. 3, at Golden Gate Metropolitan Community Church. For those wishing to make donations in Dean's memory, the family suggests Shanti or the Golden Gate M.C.C. Rest Stop for People With AIDS/ARC.

Charles Rose Sinclair "Foxy"

Charles Rose Sinclair passed away on Jan. 22 of a major coronary.



Feb. 7, at 2 p.m.

Goodbye to the Queen Mother of All of Sonoma County who will be missed by all those who loved her brilliant and sarcastic wit. Those that knew Foxy well had the knowledge that under the crusty exterior was a heart of pure gold.

We loved you, Foxy.

Gary Lamoureux

6/1/50 - 1/15/87

Gary died at home on Jan. 15. He went to sleep in his favorite chair while his lover slept on the couch. Only this time, Gary never woke up.



Gary was involved with the Creative Power Foundation, helping with the planning of Stars and Night Flight. Gary was diagnosed with AIDS two years ago. He fought long and hard and endured many illnesses and a great deal of pain. Gary did carpentry and remodeling and

was also a bartender at the Trench and the Stables. From there, he went on to Thomas Swan, where he was a sign painter.

Thank you, Shanti, for all your help. Special thanks to Joe Mayfield, Michael Keen and Bob Mills all from Shanti. You touched Gary's and my life and made it so much richer and easier for us over the last two years.

Special thanks also to the Zuni Cafe. Thanks for your constant love, understanding and support. Without you all I don't know how we would have made it through.

Thanks to John and Mark, David, Vince, Billy, Bob, Valerie, Peter and Maryanna, and the countless many who gave so much. Gary leaves behind many wonderful brothers and sisters and his mother and father. He also leaves behind his companion, best friend, and lover of six years, Billy Chambers. Special thanks to Gary's family and mine for all their love and support. You're the best.

Bye, Gary, I love you and always will. I'm happy to know that you don't hurt anymore.

Contributions may be sent in Gary's name to the Shanti Project.

Ted M. Lemek

It's so hard to say good-bye. We'll always remember those special times we've shared, for us those times will never end. Our memories will always be full of your giving love and you'll always be with us in our heart, mind and soul.



We thank God we were able to be with you at the end, to give each other the strength and the courage to carry on. To give each other the time to recall those special memories of two different lives, at two different times we both shared with you. It's so hard to say good-bye. So we'll say, until we meet again...

Ted M. Lemek passed on to a new life, into a different time, 11:15 a.m. on Jan. 14 at Rose Medical Center in Denver, CO.

With All Our Love,
Kay, Denver, CO
Larry, San Francisco, CA

Jerry Rothman

Jerrold W. Rothman, born on Feb. 14, 1943, died on Jan. 20 in San Francisco. Jerry was born in Chicago and moved to San Francisco in 1972.



He loved his plants, fish and, most of all, his friends. He had a deep sense of irony and dry wit.

He will be remembered by Kurt, Paul, Joni, "Clang" and many friends. Jerry lives on in their hearts. Jerry's funeral was held in Chicago on Jan. 21.

Mark Hermes

Mark passed away on Jan. 25 after a year and a half battle with AIDS. He is survived by his parents, Robert and Doris Hermes, brother Bob and sisters JoAnn and Sue, all of Indiana, and his lover of five years, Lorence Griffin.



Mark was born in Gary, IN in 1949 and made the exciting and spontaneous move to San Francisco in the early 1970s. He lived in the city for about ten years, then moved to the Russian River area. He began landscaping his property and building his own home in the mountains of Cazadero.

He was an original member of the

San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus and toured the country with them in 1981. He was a popular bartender at Molly Brown's Saloon in Guerneville for a year and a half prior to his diagnosis and before that, at River Village for three years.

Mark put his all into every endeavor. That was his credo. As a gardener, he adored nature's beauty; as a bartender, he was fun-loving and thoroughly professional; as a PWA, he was always hopeful and courageous. He lived his life with vision and integrity and empowered those around him to do the same. He will be missed by his many friends.

Timothy R. Mikelson

Timothy R. Mikelson, 30, died in Arlington, VA, on Jan. 14, as a result of AIDS.

Tim was politically active and spent most of his career seeking positive change. He worked on political campaigns at the local, state and national levels, including Alan Cranston's presidential bid. Most recently he held the position of Program Director for a D.C.-based national trade association.

Tim is survived by his parents, two sisters, two brothers and four nieces. He will be missed dearly by his family and friends.

Contributions in his memory may be sent to: San Francisco AIDS Foundation, Attn: Paul Anderson, 333 Valencia Street, 4th Floor, San Francisco, CA 94103.

(Make check payable to "S.F. AIDS Foundation" and note "in memory of Tim Mikelson.")

Mauro Olano

Mauro A. Olano, aka Mario Chemist, was the lover of Larry Forgays, aka Mike, for 15 years. He had AIDS for two years. He finally entered Heaven on Nov. 14, 1986. Mass was said at Grace Cathedral on



Nov. 29. His ashes are permanently enshrined in Grace Cathedral's Columbarium.

Requests were made for donations to the American Federation for AIDS Research, 9601 Wilshire Blvd., Mezzanine, Los Angeles, CA 90210.

Unfortunately, thus far the only donations received in his memory were from his lover and a straight gentleman. This is strange because Mauro had many gay friends.

Douglas Nelson

On Jan. 26, at 1 p.m., Douglas Nelson died peacefully at home. His death was due to AIDS-related pneumonia. He was 51 years old.

Douglas worked in public relations in San Francisco for many years and was active in local Republican politics.

Diagnosed in April of 1986, he was philosophical about his fate and was a source of strength to those who stood by him. He was brave and beautiful to the end, having faced his illness with courage and humor. He will be missed by his best friend Dean Nichols, and by his family. He is survived by a son and a daughter.

(Continued on page 22)

Obituary Policy

Due to an unfortunately large number of obituaries, Bay Area Reporter has been forced to change its obituary policy.

We must now restrict obits to 200 words. And please, no poetry. We reserve the right to edit for style, clarity and taste.

Deadline for all obituaries is Monday at 5 p.m.

BAY AREA REPORTER GREATER BAY NEWS

No Reason For AIDS Contact Tracing: Kizer

by Gerard Koskovich

California's top health official predicted last week that acquired immune deficiency syndrome will rank among the ten leading causes of death in the state by 1990. AIDS would thus become the first sexually-transmitted disease to join such maladies as heart disease and cancer on the list of leading causes of death. Nevertheless, said Kizer, he opposes use of contact tracing as a means of combatting the epidemic.

"AIDS will probably be around number seven on the list by the end of the decade," said Dr. Kenneth Kizer, Director of the California Department of Health Services. "In the next five years, we expect the state's case load to top 500,000."

According to Kizer, approximately 7,000 Californians have been diagnosed with AIDS. He estimated that another 500,000 have been infected with the human immuno-deficiency virus (HIV) that causes AIDS.

Kizer made his remarks as part of a talk on "The California View: STD Policy at the State Level" before an audience of 75 people at the Stanford University Medical School on Jan. 20.

At present, 80 percent of AIDS cases in California are in San Francisco and Los Angeles counties, Kizer said. Within the past year, however, the AIDS case load has tripled in San Diego County.

"We expect that by 1991, about one-third of the cases will come from areas outside of San Francisco and Los Angeles," Kizer said. To date, AIDS cases have been reported in 45 of the state's 58 counties.

According to Kizer, California's response to the AIDS crisis has been "unprecedented and unmatched. We're spending more on AIDS than we're spending on heart disease, cancer, stroke, diabetes and trauma combined."



'We expect that by 1991, about one-third of the (AIDS) cases will come from areas, outside of San Francisco and Los Angeles.'

—Dr. Kenneth Kizer
(Photo: Rink)

"This says something about the priority we as a state place on AIDS," Kizer added. "The dimensions of the problem, however, will require significantly greater resources in the future."

Responding to questions in a small seminar following his public talk, Kizer said he opposes the use of contact tracing as a public health measure for combatting the AIDS epidemic.

"There would be no reason to use contact tracing for AIDS," Kizer explained. "The primary motivation in contact tracing is to find exposed individuals and treat them; that clearly doesn't hold for AIDS,

where we have no treatment to offer."

Questioned whether he approved of California Gov. George Deukmejian's two vetoes last year of legislation that would have outlawed discrimination against people with AIDS, Kizer refused to answer.

"It's a much broader issue than purely public health," he said. "It goes into political areas, so I'd like to defer on that question to the governor's office."

Responding to another question from a seminar participant, Kizer said he had not appointed specific staff members as representatives of the gay community when the Department of Public Health set

'The primary motivation in contact tracing is to find exposed individuals and treat them.'

—Dr. Kenneth Kizer

up a special Office of AIDS last year.

"But many members of the AIDS Office are either gay or lesbian—on the professional and legal staffs and on the clerical staff," Kizer stressed. "I think that constitutes community representation."

In his public talk, Kizer also emphasized that beyond the AIDS crisis "California has some special problems related to importation and transmission of sexually-transmitted diseases." He outlined several factors that have made STD's particularly prevalent in the state:

- Large numbers of migrant farm-workers, whose documented status, mobility, and language differences create serious barriers to public health intervention.

- Large numbers of military personnel. California also acts as the point of entry for armed forces returning from Pacific Basin countries. Kizer pointed to this population as the locus of transmission for penicillin-resistant strains of gonorrhea that originated in Southeast Asia.

- A tourism industry that brings in large numbers of sexually active adults.

- A historical and contemporary development of "alternative lifestyles" that place individuals in higher risk for sexually-transmitted diseases, including the counter-culture and drug culture of the 1960's and '70's, and the growth of the gay community since the 1970's.

According to Kizer, these factors make sexually-transmitted diseases more of a challenge and a bigger issue in California than in most other states. ●

Nez Pas

How Do You Spell Relief?

CHILI CHALLENGE CONCLUSIONS (A "Rolands" Nose!)

Eleven hopefuls entered Revol's 7th Annual Chili Cook-Off on Monday, Jan. 26—and quite an assortment it was, too.

The judges (all Miss \$1.98 winners or associates plus one last-minute volunteer, The Witch of Hayward, Paul, David, Mama Chuckles, Jim, Thom, and Al, pursued their adjudicating with diligence and aplomb. No one chili received the exact same vote from any of the judges—proving once again that, indeed, chili is totally a matter of personal preference. (When I mentioned this to Dowager Miss 99 Cents Jim, he said it just goes to prove that opinions are like assholes. Everyone has one, and they usually stink!)

All were winners. But, alas, only three cash prizes could be awarded. Third place (\$50) went to Revol's bartender, Orca; second place (\$75) was awarded to Emperor VIII David; and the top honor (\$100) was received by Jim (Cakes). Both David and Jim donated their winnings back to the East Bay Assistance Fund,

this year's beneficiary.

Assisting and abetting in the final tally was Town & Country. Suzie's "EBAF JUC" proffered \$930. Raffle tickets for a bottle of Prusser's Rum produced \$45, and T&C donated an additional \$25. The entry fees produced \$55, and the chili sales accounted for \$47. Revol's raffle tickets for the rum totaled \$95. With the prize donations (\$175) and a donation from Revol (\$28), the grand total presented to EBAF was \$1,400.

The winner of the Captain's decanter of rum was Ed Paulson, very deserving if I do say so myself.

"PROTECTOR PRESENTS" (A Proud Nose)

Speaking of Ed Paulson, all reports are now in from his AIDS & Needy Auction held at Big Mama's on Sunday, Dec. 7, 1986. The total amount raised at that auction was a whopping \$5,184.25!

The paid outs included:

Microwave & Toaster ovens, AIDS-Fairmont \$408.71

JC Penney, blinds for AIDS

House \$149.71

Tri-City Volunteers for needy families \$300.00

AIDS Food Bank \$500.00

AIDS House \$63.90

Jack H., AIDS patient room & board \$380.00

Michael H., rent for room \$100.00

Janice Hiller, PG&E (needy family) \$35.00

Grutman's \$2,393.15

Lucky's & Safeway \$1,067.09

Misc. stationery \$51.32

The total paid outs amounted to \$5443.98. We all know from whom the additional \$259.73 was donated.

Big Mama's customers assisted Ed with the tremendous task of wrapping all the clothing and goodies, and the distributing of all the presents and gift certificates.

Also collected during the holidays was approximately \$4,000 in food via the food barrels for the AIDS Food Bank, Fairmont Hospital, and needy families. These barrels were placed in gay bars in Alameda County. The hub of this activity was in Hayward, and ironically, only one Hayward bar did not participate—in the auction or with the food barrels!

Literally dozens of thank you letters and cards were received by Ed, from organizations and in-

(Continued on next page)

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Gift-wrapping at Big Mama's.

(Photo: Nez)

Nez

(Continued from previous page)

dividuals. The one that seemed dearest to his heart was one that was scribed, "Thank you for the bathrobe. John K. (a dashing spectacle in the robe!)"

MELANGE (A Medley Nose)

The Turf Club is having its Annual Valentine's Day Party (on Saturday, Feb. 14, I guess—the flyer didn't state). The party will feature "professional" strippers at 7:30 and 9:30 p.m. There will be a Bare Chest contest at 10 p.m. (\$100 first prize; \$50 tab and \$25 tab for second and third prizes). There will be a buffet, and Happy Hour prices will be in effect from 8 to 9 p.m.

An exclusive Bay Area engagement: Michael Green in Concert. Big Mama's presents this award-winning entertainer on Saturday, Feb. 14, and Wednesday, Feb. 18. Both shows start at 8 p.m., and there's never a cover charge at Big Mama's.

NAMASTE, an East Bay organization, provides free emotional support to the dying and their loved ones. This organization trains those who are interested in providing this kind of emotional support. Their next training sessions will be on Mar. 13, 14, 15, 20, and 21. No experience is needed; just an open and caring heart. For more information, if interested, call 547-7702.

"Peter, I don't know how to contact you. I *crave* mention in your column. Sincerely, Joseph." That was on the back of his card. The front: Body Electric, School of Massage & Rebirthing, Joseph Kramer. Two flyers attached to

the card presented: Transformational Sex and Taoist Erotic Massage for Men (both presented by Joseph); and Bodywork for People with Life-Threatening Illness (a weekend workshop with Irene Smith, sponsored by Body Electric, plus a reproduction of an article about her printed in the S.F. Examiner). A call to Joseph Kramer at (415) 653-1594 will get you more information.

For my sake, indeed! Jack Sterling's letter to the editor in the last issue of B.A.R. amused me. When I fill out applications, last name first of course, it always comes out something akin to "put your hand around your dick!"

Andrew J. Betancourt's letter didn't amuse me. I happen to be a gay teacher. I wouldn't and couldn't "push my viewpoint on students in each and every opportunity" even if ordered to. Think about it. Political science teachers aren't allowed to persuade or dissuade students on how to vote; science teachers present both creation and big boom, regardless of their personal religious leanings.

It boggles my mind: two of my classes are Creative Cooking. My "viewpoints" aren't kinky in my own kitchen, much less the classroom kitchens! "O.K., Joe, you and Sam tenderize your meat while Mary and Jane skin the chicken breasts!"

If I survive, next week will be the report on Miss \$1.98 Beauty Pageant.

Any order that can be misunderstood has already been misunderstood. I smile. Love,

Nez

Stanford Valentine's Dance

On Saturday, Feb. 14, the Gay and Lesbian Alliance at Stanford (GLAS) will be hosting its annual open Valentine's Dance for women and men. The event, which will feature a variety of alternative and progressive dance music, will take place at the Elliott Program Center on the shores of Lake Lagunita near the Governor's Corner dormitory complex from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m.

There will be a \$3 cover charge, and ID will be required for alcoholic beverages; non-alcoholic drinks will be available as well.

Everyone is welcome, regardless of gender, sexual orientation, age, or race.

For directions and additional information, call GLAS at (415) 723-1488.

Wisconsin

(Continued from page one)

citizens. Assembly Bill 70 added the clause "sexual orientation" to the state law against discrimination in employment, housing, public accommodations, licensing and union membership.

Wisconsin's anti-bias law is more than just a paper tiger. The state Department of Industry, Labor and Human Relations has the power to investigate discrimination and enforce sanctions against violators, and it often uses that power.

Since the gay-rights law was signed by moderate Republican Gov. Lee Dreyfus five years ago, the state has pursued dozens of cases against employers and others who were charged with discriminating against gays.

The gay-rights law was strongly backed by progressive Democratic Gov. Tony Earl, elected in 1982 and defeated last year. Earl was the most pro-gay governor in the nation. He appointed an openly gay press secretary and formed a statewide gay and lesbian council to oversee implementation of the anti-discrimination law.

COUNCIL QUILTS

But Earl's progressive coalition unraveled in the 1986 election. Conservative Republican Tommy Thompson—who made the gay council an issue in the campaign—defeated the incumbent by a 52-48 percent margin.

"The new governor had made it clear in his campaign that he would abolish the gay and lesbian council," said Wagner, who was a founding member of the council and a close advisor to former Gov. Earl.

Rather than be fired, council members quit. They resigned en masse the week before Gov. Thompson was inaugurated.

The council was a key force in implementing the gay-rights law, even though it was not formally part of the legislation. Council members held town forums throughout Wisconsin publicizing the law. They told gays and lesbians how to file complaints,

and they told local governmental officials and business leaders what they were required to do in order to comply with the law.

Thus, the council was the most visible target for those who opposed the gay-rights law. Gov. Thompson's threats against the council were just the first play in a bigger blitz to undo all the legislative gains made by gays in Wisconsin.

"In his campaign, Tommy Thompson portrayed Tony Earl as a social engineer—and the gay-rights law was part of that," said Wagner. "He publicly attacked the gay-lesbian council on a number of occasions."

Thompson previously served in the Assembly, representing a conservative district from the northeastern part of the state. In the Assembly, Thompson pushed a bill to weaken the gay-rights law—a repeal that nearly passed last year, and may pass in 1987.

BOY'S CAMP

The repeal measure is called the "Rawhide Bill." It is named for a boy's camp not far from Green Bay which is championed by Super Bowl hero Bart Starr. In the northeastern half of Wisconsin, Bart Starr is second only to God, and then not by much.

Rawhide Boy's Ranch is not a religious institution but it is run by a religious institution—a fundamentalist Christian church. The distinction is important. The anti-bias law makes an exemption for churches per se. For example, the Catholic Archdiocese of Milwaukee—which, in fact, supported the gay-rights law in 1982—could not be ordered to hire gay staff members.

But social services agencies run by a church are covered by the law. Rawhide Ranch falls into that category. It receives much of its funding—and many of its referrals of delinquent youths—from the state.

"The Rawhide Ranch has refused to comply with the State Fair Employment Law, which includes sexual orientation, and it has made a point of that refusal," Wagner said.

Bart Starr held televised press

conferences pushing the "Rawhide Bill" and attacking the gay-rights law. The Rawhide Bill would exempt any non-profit organization with a "sincerely held religious belief" from being covered by the fair employment law.

Although the Rawhide Bill attacks only one aspect of the gay-rights law, it opens the door for wholesale repeal. If the bill wins strong support in the Wisconsin Legislature, amendments could be added to gut the gay-rights law entirely. Gov. Thompson has privately said he would support such an effort.

Defenders of the anti-discrimination law have reason to be worried. Last year, the "Rawhide Bill" passed the Senate and won approval in the Assembly by one vote—before being blocked on a second Assembly vote with five votes to spare.

The leadership of the Assembly hopes to keep the Rawhide Bill in corral—and with long-time gay-rights champion David Clarenbach now serving as Speaker Pro Tem, the pro-gay leaders have considerable clout.

But in Wisconsin, with its volatile mix of right-wing conservatism and left-wing progressivism—and little in the middle—anything could happen next. ●

Deaths

(Continued from page 20)

Judy Krystal (Gucinski)

Judy Krystal/Gucinski, 31, died on Wednesday, Jan. 14. A Bay Area resident all her life, she had lived in San Francisco for the past five years.

Judy was active in the gay community including working on Pat Norman's first bid for Supervisor, setting up a Dignity chapter in San Jose and fundraising for Palo Alto and Santa Clara County's anti-discrimination ordinance. At the time of her death, she was employed as a paralegal/administrative assistant at UC San Francisco.

Donations may be made in Judy's name to Coming Home Hospice or Shanti Project. ●

idea. I only know that it was the first time for both of us, and it was heaven.

Thus began a year and a half of unexpected bliss, as Tommy and I sought each other's company more often than ever. We met in our bedrooms, in the basement, in the backyard treehouse—wherever we could find a bit of privacy. Sometimes we took chances. There was the time we did it anyway, even though Tommy's mother was downstairs doing laundry. When she tried to put the laundry away, she discovered Tommy's door locked and nearly had a fit.

This state of affairs continued until that black day, alas, when Tommy's parents announced they were moving to another city far away. I was absolutely distraught at losing my best friend—nay, my boyfriend—but Tommy didn't seem to mind. He was excited about the change, the cad. After he left I did find other sex partners, but it wasn't the same. For years I dreamed about him and wondered if he missed me as much as I missed him—or at all.

I didn't see Tommy again for four years, not until our high school choir travelled to his city on tour. He came to the concert and looked better than ever, but I felt like I hardly knew him anymore. I certainly didn't ask him if he remembered our escapades in the treehouse together. Neither did I ask him if he was as

obsessed as I was by the continuing desire to do more of the same. We merely exchanged a few polite words of conversation and parted—forever.

For years afterward I wondered if Tommy was gay. He certainly enjoyed homosexuality at age 12. Did it last? I found out later when my childhood friend, Beth, who attended the university with him, kept me informed of the developments in his life. After college, he went to med school. At some point he got married. Later he got divorced.

I lost all hope when Beth herself had an affair with the man. It was too ironic. Over 15 years before, Tommy interfered with my relationship with Beth; now Beth was destroying my hopes for Tommy. Sometimes life just ain't fair.

I still think about Tommy constantly. Sometimes I will use his last name when making reservations at a restaurant, for it is easier to spell than my own. I even used it at the Haight-Ashbury Free Medical Clinic once, when I didn't want anyone to know that I might have intestinal parasites—an odd form of flattery, I admit. While that might have offended Tommy, however, he could only be pleased that I also used his name as the main character of one of my unpublished novels. I needed something special, and whenever I think of something special, Tommy comes to mind.

That's one thing I hope never changes. ●

Hippler

(Continued from page 10)

together when suddenly the conversation began to drift. Soon we were sitting on the bed beside one another, promising, "I'll show you mine if you show me yours."

Then we unzipped.

If it is of any consequence, I won this competition, at least for the time being. I reached puberty before Tommy, and it showed. I doubt this concerned Tommy, for he—and I—were interested in other things besides exhibitionism.

Whether he introduced me to the joys of mutual masturbation or I introduced him, I have no

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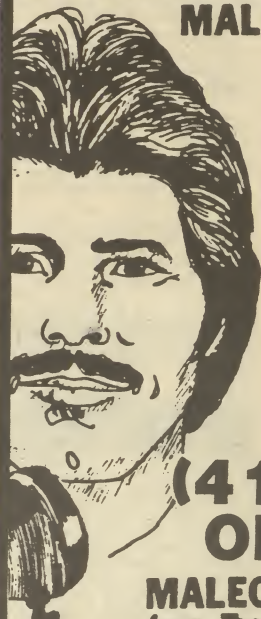
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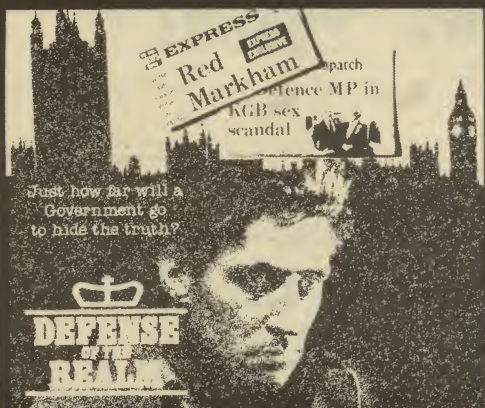
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FRIDAY 6

- **\$1.98 Beauty Contest:** sponsored by the Grand Ducal Council, Showfolks of America, 827 Hyde St., S.F., 8 PM, \$5. The Council's first official fundraising event to benefit an AIDS lobbyist in Washington, hosted by Danny Williams.
- **Dancing Cheek to Cheek:** tea dance, Trocadero Transfer, 520 4th St., S.F., 5:30-8:30 PM, \$6. Featuring City Swing with Gail Wilson, the San Francisco Tap Troupe, and the Ritz Dancers.
- **Maureen Brownsey:** comedy cabaret, Baybrick Inn, 1190 Folsom St., S.F., 8-10 PM, free.
- **Lori Noelle:** comedy, Sisterspirit Coffeehouse, 1040 Park Ave., San Jose, doors open 8 PM, show begins 9 PM, \$5-\$7 sliding scale. Featured at the '86 West Coast Women's Music and Comedy Festival.
- **Needlemania:** play party for pierced/tattooed men and women, doors open 9-10 PM, \$10. Tobacco-free environment, soft drinks, snacks, and imaginative play space provided. Call 621-6294 for more information.
- **Gay and Lesbian Outreach to Elders:** older gay men's friendship group (60+), Friendship Room, 711 Eddy St., S.F., 2:45 PM. Led by George Birimisa. Call 626-7000 for more information.
- **Fraternal Order of Gays:** game fest, FOG House, 304 Gold Mine Dr., S.F., 8 PM. Call 641-0999 for more information.
- **French Conversation Evening:** 8 PM in San Francisco. Call 771-2954 or 863-1356 for more information.
- **Please Wait For the Beep:** stage performance, Theatre Rhinoceros, 2926 16th St., S.F., 8 PM, \$9-\$12. The comedy hit of last year's Studio season takes the mainstage; written by Margery Kreitman, directed by Patricia Keaney. Call 861-5079 for tickets.
- **Dinosaurs Surviving the Crunch:** stage performance, The Studio at Theatre Rhinoceros, 2926 16th St., S.F., 8:30 PM, \$7. Comedian Sandy Van conjures Carol Channing, Tallulah Bankhead, and Katherine Hepburn, delivering original monologues and fielding questions from the audience. Call 861-5079 for tickets.

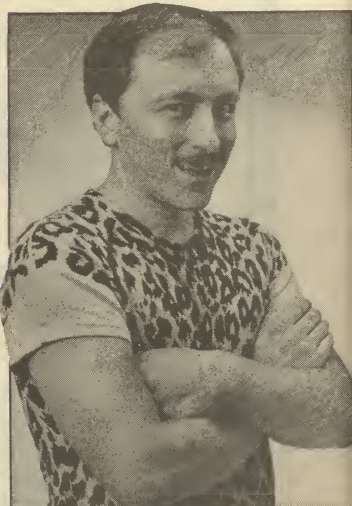
SATURDAY 7

- **Hunter Davis and Friends:** music, Artemis Cafe, 1199 Valencia St., S.F., 8 PM, \$5-\$7 sliding scale. Introducing new material and playing tunes from *Harmony*.
- **Let's Dance:** at The Annex, Amelia's new showplace upstairs, 647 Valencia St., S.F., 9 PM to 2 AM, \$5. With DJ Torch. Call 552-7788 for more information.
- **Brazil Ja:** music, El Rio, 3158 Mission St., S.F., 10 PM to 1 AM.
- **Bloodroots:** dance, New Performance Gallery, 3153 17th St., S.F., 8 PM, \$10. The Dance Brigade in a benefit for the Alternative AIDS Healing Project.
- **Birth of a Foundation:** art show, Vida Gallery, Women's Building, 3543 18th St., S.F., 4-7 PM. A reception featuring recent works by Tibeca artists David Ahoy, Cindy Ewing, Nancy Gotthart, and Clare Wren announcing Tibeca Arts, a non-profit organization funding visual, literary, and performing artists. Champagne celebration at 6 PM. Please bring canned food for the SF AIDS Foundation Food Bank or a book for the Coming Home Hospice library. Ten percent of any art sold will benefit these charities.

- **Needlemania:** piercing clinic, Mr. S Leathers, 227 7th St., S.F., noon to 5 PM. Permanent piercing by Jim Ward of the Gauntlet. Proper hygiene strictly observed, privacy assured. Call 863-7764 for an appointment.
- **San Francisco Hiking Club:** guided tour of the Stanford campus and Men's Swimming and Diving meet. Meet at the Samirans bus stop at Mission and 7th sts., S.F., at 8:45 AM. Return to SF via Caltrans. Rain cancels.
- **EastBay FrontRunners:** Berkeley Marina run. Take University Ave. west to Marina. Meet at dirt parking lot on the left side of the road before the parking lot for the wind surfers' dock. Call 526-7592 or 261-3246 for more information.
- **Sweet Inspiration:** music, Sweet Inspiration, 2239 Market St., S.F., all afternoon, free. Call 621-8664 for more information. Sunday also.
- **Gay and Lesbian Legal Issues and Careers:** conference, Kendrick Hall, University of San Francisco Law School, 9 AM to 5 PM, \$5 except for BALIF members and law students. Keynote address by Nancy Walker, career and issues panels, roundtable discussions, wine and cheese following.

SUNDAY 8

- **Poetry and Well-Being:** Valentine poetry reading presented by Artists For Community Life, Intersection for the Arts, 766 Valencia St., S.F., 4 PM, \$7. Merle Woo, Juan Pablo Guiterrez, and six other poets will read from their works to benefit the group's free art workshops for people with AIDS. Call 652-4526 or 626-ARTS for more information.
- **A Taste of Talent '87:** fashion/talent show, Herbst Theatre, S.F., 8 PM, \$15-\$25. A benefit for Coming Home Hospice. Tickets at City Box Office or at the door.
- **Maxine Howard and Her Rhythm and Blues Explosion:** music, Baybrick Inn, 1190 Folsom St., S.F., 5:30 PM, \$5. A Bon Voyage party for Maxine's European tour.
- **City Trio:** music, Walt Whitman Bookshop, 2319 Market St., S.F., 8 PM, \$5-\$7 sliding scale. Beethoven, Mozart, and Dvorak. Call 861-3078 for reservations.
- **Bululu:** music, El Rio, 3158 Mission St., S.F., 4-8 PM, \$3. Salsa, Brazilian music.



Danny Williams will entertain at the Gay and Lesbian Outreach to Elders Valentine party Feb. 8

- **Needlemania:** piercing clinic, 2-8 PM. Permanent piercing by Jim Ward of the Gauntlet. Proper hygiene strictly observed. Privacy on request. Call 621-6294 for an appointment.
- **Gay and Lesbian Outreach to Elders:** men's Valentine party, Francis of Assisi Community, 145 Guerrero St., S.F., noon to 3 PM, \$3. With Danny Williams, Mikio, Pizes. Call 626-7000 for more information.
- **San Francisco FrontRunners:** Presidio run. Meet in Letterman Army Hospital parking lot just inside Lombard Gate at 10 AM. Up to four miles, some gentle hills. Call 673-7303 or 337-8704 for more information.
- **San Francisco Hiking Club:** mystery hike on Mt. Tam, 9:45 AM. Call 863-9075 for more information.
- **Gay Fathers:** potluck supper/meeting, Sherith Israel, 2266 California St., S.F., social hour 5 PM, supper 6 PM, facilitated peer support groups 7:30 PM. Call 841-0306 for more information.
- **High Tech Gays:** meeting, 1040 Park Ave., San Jose, socializing 6 PM, potluck 6:30 PM. Jean Kovalich will speak.

WEEK

- **Fraternal Order of Gays:** game afternoon, FOG House, 304 Gold Mine Dr., S.F., 3 PM. Call 641-0999 for more information.
- **Feminism, Lesbian/Gay Liberation and Peace in Central America:** presented by Lesbians and Gays Against Intervention, La Pena Cultural Center, 3105 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley, 8 PM. Tede Matthews and Jim Dennison will speak.
- **Slightly Older Lesbians:** meeting, potluck social 5 PM, support/discussion group 6 PM. Call 647-0413 for more information.
- **Gay PC User Group:** meeting, MCC San Francisco, 150 Eureka St., S.F., 3-5 PM. Call 334-9761 for more information.
- **Please Wait For the Beep:** stage performance, 3 PM, \$9-\$10 (see Friday listing for details).
- **MCC of the Redwoods:** worship and communion service, Olive and Throckmorton Sts., Mill Valley, 10:45 AM. Call 388-2315 for more information.



Join Gail Wilson and City Swing at the Trocadero Feb. 6 for Dancing Cheek to Cheek (Photo: Rink)

- **Latter-Day Saints:** sacrament meeting for lesbians and gays and their friends, Sacramento Lambda Community Center, 1931 L St., Sacramento, 1 PM. Conducted by the Sacramento Family of the Restoration Church of Jesus Christ. Call (916) 447-5755 for more information.
- **Integrity:** Eucharist, St. John's Church, 1661 15th St., S.F., 5:30 PM.
- **MCC San Francisco:** worship and communion services, 150 Eureka St., S.F., 10:30 AM and 7 PM. Call 863-4434 for more information. Childcare and signing provided at morning service.
- **Church of the Secret Gospel:** (see Friday for details).
- **St. Mark's Lutheran Church:** services, 111 O'Farrell (at Gough), S.F., communion at 8:30 AM and 11 AM. Call 928-7770 for details.
- **Diablo Valley MCC:** worship celebration, 2253 Concord Blvd., 10 AM. Call 827-2960 for details.
- **Affirmation-Gay and Lesbian Mormons:** meeting and services. Call 641-4554 for recorded message which details the meetings and socials.
- **Golden Gate MCC:** Sunday worship services, 48 Belcher St. (between 14th St. and Duboce), S.F., 12:30 PM, 7 PM. Call 474-4848 for details.
- **Dignity:** Sunday Mass, St. Boniface Church, 133 Golden Gate (near Civic Center), 5:30 PM. Call 584-1714 for details.
- **Holy Trinity Church:** meets at the Billy DeFrank Community Center, 1040 Park Ave., San Jose, 10 AM to noon.
- **Eastern Orthodox:** Holy Ascension Mission, liturgy at 10 AM, 1671 Golden Gate #2, S.F. Call 563-8514 for more information.

MONDAY 9

- **Alice B. Toklas Lesbian/Gay Democratic Club:** meeting, Women's Building, 3543 18th St., S.F., 8 PM. Nancy Honig will speak on what must be done to save public education in California.

TUESDAY 10

- **Burlesque Show:** to benefit the International Ms. Leather contest, Baybrick Inn, 1190 Folsom St., S.F., 9 PM, \$5. Featuring Tattoo Blue, Pepper, Rock 'n' Roll Ramona, and Rainbow.

- **Gay Cable Network:** television on cable channel 6, 9 PM. Gay community news and views highlighting feminist Ginny Foat on Pride and Progress. Mystery host on The Right Stuff, highlighting Tede Matthews discussing erotic art in Nicaragua.
- **March on Washington:** Civil Disobedience Committee planning meeting, 341 Douglas St., S.F., 7 PM. Call 863-3916 for more information.

WEDNESDAY 11

- **Heart to Art:** dance party to benefit Coming Home Hospice, Club Nine, 399 9th St., S.F., 8 PM, \$10. Featuring Voice Farm, Ms. Kitty and the Cycle Soul Blues, Beatnik Beach, The Flips, Tom Ammannio, Suzy Berger, and 1950s government training films, plus surprise guests. MC Patrick Toner. Tickets at Headlines.
- **Long Time Passing: Lives of Older Lesbians:** reading by Marcy Adelman, editor of the anthology, Mama Bears, 6536 Telegraph Ave., Oakland, 7 PM. An event for women. Call 428-9684 for more information.
- **Lesbian/Gay Poetry:** open reading, Modern Times Bookstore, 968 Valencia St., S.F., 7:30 PM. First-time or experienced readers welcome.
- **Federal Lesbians and Gays:** meeting, Rooney's, 22 9th St., S.F., 6 PM. Carole Migden of Operation Concern will speak. No-host cocktails, free buffet. Bring a magazine for people with AIDS. Call 695-9174 for more information.
- **Men Together:** discussion group, MCC of San Francisco, 150 Eureka St., S.F., 7:30 PM. This week's topic is eliminating one more barrier: men together on racism. Call 863-4434 for more information.
- **Susanne Vincenza, Mimi Fox, and Irene Sazar:** music, Baybrick Inn, 1190 Folsom St., S.F., 9 PM, free. Jazz with Cello, Guitar, and Violin.
- **Please Wait For the Beep:** stage performance (see Friday for details).
- **Wednesday Matinee With GLOE:** sponsored by Gay and Lesbian Outreach to Elders and North of Market Senior Services, this weekly program will offer movies, games, and refreshments for gay men and lesbians over 60 at 333 Turk St., S.F., 2:15-4:30 PM. Call 626-7000 for more information.

THURSDAY 12

- **Alexander Hamilton American Legion Post 448:** meeting, Veterans Memorial Building, room 213, S.F., 7 PM.
- **Fraternal Order of Gays:** French cooking class, FOG House, 304 Gold Mine Dr., S.F., 8 PM. Call 641-0999 for more information.
- **Castro Lions:** benefit preview of *Bent*, 19th and Colingwood, S.F., 8 PM, \$10. Call 673-9340 for more information.
- **Bonnie Hayes:** music, Baybrick Inn, 1190 Folsom St., S.F., 7 PM. Solo on piano.
- **Pat Wilder's R&B Jam:** music, Baybrick Inn, 1190 Folsom St., S.F., 10 PM, \$2. All musicians welcome.
- **Please Wait For the Beep:** stage performance (see Friday for details).



Tom Ammannio will be featured at Heart to Art, a dance-party benefit for Coming Home Hospice at Club Nine Feb. 11

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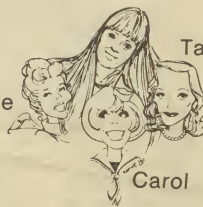
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Written by Sandy Van and John Kraft

Starring
SANDY VAN
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Not Another Chicken Joke!

The Very Funny Lori Noelle
Coming to a Stage Near You

by Joy Schulenburg

Lori Noelle is Everywoman. She is also every kid of working class origin who grew up in the American Heartland. The reason you are reading about her here is that she is also very funny and I want to urge you to go and see her while you have the chance.

I first encountered Noelle at a gay awards banquet in Chicago. She was emceeing the presentation, I was getting an award, and the banquet organizers decided that was sufficient reason to seat us at the same table. I had heard of her from friends in the Midwest who raved to me about this hilarious performer called Lori Noelle, so I was delighted to have an opportunity to see her perform. She, on the other hand, had never heard of me. Since previous years' honorees included the likes of Dear Abby and Phil Donohue, she probably figured she'd drawn a dud, emceeing for a relatively unknown author.

She was gracious. I have to give her credit. She was polite and friendly and charming — until the chicken Kiev arrived. Then she stopped being gracious. She didn't have to anymore, she was too busy being funny. Apparently the veteran of many catered banquets, she attacked that pathetic piece of poultry without ever raising her fork. Within seconds she had everyone at the table convulsed as she conjured up a parade of endless chicken Kievs marching through endless banquet halls across the land. And that was just the warm-up. Let me tell you, if you are ever invited to dinner with Lori Noelle, go for it. The food was terrible but it was one of the best meals of my life thanks to the company.

After she had lambasted the chicken, praised the coffee ("I'm a caffeine achiever!") and verbally singed the meringue on the baked Alaska, she took the microphone and brought down the house. The marvelous thing was that she didn't have to break her pace. On stage she was the same wonderfully nutty person she had been over dinner. In fact, much of the dinner-table conversation ended up in her routine that night and I laughed all over again.

That is Noelle's special gift — to take the commonplace and present its funniest side. She has the true comic's ability to tap her environment for spontaneous humor. Although she is quite capable of doing characters and impressions, it is the experience of everyday life in America that provides the bulk of her material. Whether she is lampooning '60s sitcoms (She does a terrific Mary Tyler Moore impression, complete with audience participation) or analyzing softball ("Believe me, a 12-inch softball is *not* soft!") her humor keys into events that every baby boomer can identify with.

In addition to her stand-up comedy, Lori Noelle is also a



Comedian Lori Noelle

(Photo: J. Girard)

musician of considerable skill. She plays guitar, harmonica and, most notably, a mean boogie woogie piano. This musical virtuosity often prompts her to sit down in the middle of a set and launch into such original compositions as "The Manic Depressive Rag" or deliver her version of chickens singing Beethoven. I have heard this latter bit several times now and my friends are beginning to wonder why I start giggling every time I hear Beethoven's Fifth.

Although she claims the reason is one of her life's great mysteries, Noelle has developed quite a substantial following among the gay and women's communities. She has opened for a list of performers that includes Cris Williamson, Robin Tyler, Meg Christian, and Gayle Marie, recorded with Ginni Clemmens, and performed at women's music festivals. She captured the audience at this summer's West Coast Women's Music Festival with her wonderful, deadpan impression of Cris Williamson — done entirely with a bandana.

It's not surprising then, to find Noelle began her career in comedy at a Chicago gay bar called His 'n Hers — under the Addison "L" track and a stone's throw from Wrigley Field. At the urging of friends, she took advantage of the bar's open mike comedy night and was such a hit she was booking professional engagements, "getting paid doing what I used to get kicked out of high school for."

His 'n Hers was not, however, her first experience with an audience. She caught the performing bug early in life, beginning with children's theater and piano lessons at age 6. Originally her ambition was to become a serious actress. She would still like to act, but her current goal is more in keeping with her zany, on-stage personality — she would love to take a crack at a sitcom.

Fortunately for those of us who like our comedy live, Lori Noelle

is still out there with a microphone in her hand. She takes her responsibility to entertain seriously. "People pay good money to come and hear me; they deserve the very best I can give them." Even when she is not paid, Noelle gives her very best. She has given benefit performances to raise funds for many organizations, including AIDS charities, women's organizations, and the Special Olympics, using her gift of laughter to help others. Her intent is to educate as well as entertain; she recognizes the value of laughter as a tool for healing the pain of both individuals and society. The commitment to education is not surprising, considering Noelle has a teaching degree (unused — student teaching cured her of that notion), and she still plays to a student audience, performing for college crowds around the country ("someone has to make those kids aware that Paul McCartney had a band before Wings").

In the last few years, Noelle has become a major comedic presence in the Midwest, appearing in clubs and concerts, on radio and television, and making commercials. In 1986 she was voted Showtime's Funniest Person in Illinois and has garnered considerable praise. Joan Rivers has called her "wonderfully creative and most talented." I suspect her days emceeing catered chickens are over and that the rest of her career will be spent receiving, rather than presenting awards.

During the month of February, Lori Noelle will be appearing at four separate locations in Northern California. On Friday, Feb. 6, she will be at Sisterspirit Coffeehouse in San Jose, on Saturday the 7th at Mama Bears in Oakland, and Sunday the 8th at Clairelight in Santa Rosa. The following Friday, Feb. 13, Noelle will perform at Artemis Cafe, 1199 Valencia St., here in San Francisco. Don't miss the opportunity to see this rising comedy talent.

Chuck's Family

Much Has Been Said About the Late Chuck Solomon, But What About Lily?

by John F. Karr

The first thing about Chuck Solomon was desire. Most of us fell in love with Chuck the moment we saw him: his handsome face and tousled black hair, husky voice and warm laugh, direct and sexy eyes. And then out of clothes, at the beach or the baths, with his fabulously furry body and the cock which was sometimes—and not unjustly—called the most beautiful on the West Coast. Yes, Chuck was a dream.

What's so hard about missing Chuck, though, is that he wasn't just a surface fellow. His beauty went all the way through, and that's the other thing about Chuck. Is there a single word for his concern in political causes and friendship, the use he made of his talent, or his abundant humanity? The other thing must be his soul.

Well no, he wasn't a saint. An arrogant attitude was Chuck, and when appropriate, a bitchy and cutting wit was Chuck. Yet after his death in December, everyone had testimonials to his generous encouragement and support, caring selflessness, and expansive sense of brotherhood. Those who fell in love at first sight of Chuck found a truer love when they came to know him. He had a kind and great soul.

But I'm not going to offer more testimonials here. You've probably heard those by now. I'm not going to list Chuck's theater credits; you've seen those. And I'm not going to replay in words the fine video documentary *Coming of Age*, which recounts Chuck's life and final months as

a Person with AIDS. I'm going to write about a part of Chuck's life that he didn't get to tell about, and of which he was very proud. That was his San Francisco family.

To many, it would seem an only-in-San Francisco affair. But to Chuck it was only natural to have a home, a family of both men and women, and to raise a child. It was a combination of his Jewish background, political ideals, and the freedom of lifestyles in the "hippy" years. It began on Chuck's first night in San Francisco, in 1971, when he went, appropriately enough, to a Grateful Dead concert.

Larry Brinking told me how Chuck met his family-to-be.

"Richard and Psylvia and Ellen and I were at the concert and we saw Chuck. He was so handsome and direct and sexy—it was love at first sight. We just adopted him into our circle."

Chuck had a friend in San Francisco named Michael. When he went to Michael's house the next day, he found Larry and Richard and Psylvia and Ellen: Michael's housemates. "It was instant family," Larry told me.

Perhaps the unwieldy total of 14 people living in that house contributed to the closeness which developed between Chuck and his four friends after he moved in later that year. The quintet became the core group of the household, and their relationship intensified as they joined in raising Psylvia's recently born daughter, Lily. By the time Lily was five, the group knew they

(Continued on page 44)



Chuck Solomon in earlier times

(Photo: Rink)

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Death is in the Air by Mark I. Chester

Times are strange. They say how good I look. But down is up and what they mean is not that I look good, but how wonderful it is that I don't look bad. After six years the casualty list has grown so long that there is an almost startling casualness to the passing of bad news. A letter received with firm even strokes that read: "I have AIDS. I'm going home to die." A passing comment as someone leaves my house: "I have just been diagnosed." The revelations may be calm, but they still strike me like

bitter lightning bolts.

The intensity of the death experience and its effect on the living has always been a major stimulus towards the creation of art. And it is not surprising that in times of substantial change and social/cultural upheaval, that the focus on death should become even more pervasive. But while those of us in the gay/lesbian community are struggling with living with the specter of AIDS, society as a whole is grappling with living under the shadow of death, and utter annihilation.

In the past week I have gone to five art shows that explore the meaning and effect of death, each from a little different perspective. And despite my sense that I am shellshocked and numb and want to just escape from my enclosing reality, each show opened new doorways and set off emotional depth charges that could not be denied.

Harold Shaw is a gay artist living with AIDS. His marked and altered polaroids are on exhibit at the University of California Extension Center, 55 Laguna, until Feb. 27. These mixed-media photographs cover a period from 1983 until the present, and reflect intense personal changes in Shaw's life, both prior to and after Shaw's diagnosis in 1986.

Shaw sometimes uses a single polaroid, and sometimes combines as many as six polaroids to create a larger image. The polaroid format and surface sheen have a recognizable immediacy that Shaw alters by adding objects or pasting shapes onto the polaroid's surface. He increases the resulting multi-layered surrealism by painting on the photograph, using bright (even garish) colors. These punkish colors, flowing in primitive patterns, energize his non-linear and sometimes abstract images.

The most striking pictures for me are those with the nude male body and those with Shaw's self-portrait. Shaw's self-images from 1983/4 show an intense, angular face whose awareness and pride could be mistaken for a sexy arrogance. But in 1986, post-diagnosis, there is a weariness, and slightly bitter sadness in Shaw's eyes that was literally painful to look at. A 1983 picture of side-by-side polaroids of two hands, one cupped with pills, the other flat, open and lifeless, titled "Some just give up," takes on



Harold Shaw at his opening at the UC Extension Center on Laguna (Photo: Rink)

added irony and poignancy in light of Shaw's illness.

Bronze sculpture by Al Farrow, at the Gregory Chent Gallery, 301 8th St., #206, until Feb. 28, uses altered yet archetypal African men and women as a basis for explorations into the white/black culture clash with a critical and challenging eye on white culture's hypocritical combination of advanced civilization and technological destruction.

also adding energy and flow to the body's stance.

The most powerful sculptures combine "primitive" imagery with modern tools and weapons of death. Are these our most telling symbols of civilized advancement — that we are able to destroy increasing quantities of life with greater and greater ease? And although Farrow's figures are African, momentary flashes

'The intensity of the death experience and its effect on the living has always been a major stimulus towards the creation of art.'

I don't know enough about bronze sculpture to comment on the quality of Farrow's technique, but viscerally, Farrow has created a series of highly charged figures that reverberate on many levels at the same time. These tribal figures, ranging between one and two feet high, are seemingly etched on our consciousness due to the continuing media focus on the famine in Africa and the struggle against apartheid in South Africa. Farrow has elongated his figures from the waist down, altering perspective, but

of native Southeast Asian and Central American peoples were just as potent. But the most terrifying figures were those with a skeleton death head hideously hovering next to the figure's own; like some demented double-headed demon. For me it screamed louder and more horrifyingly than all the words and pictures that have been created about the starvation in Africa.

In some ways, the most touching and painful exhibit was a posthumous

show of the work of a 23-year-old artist, Steven Moses, who was shot to death in a telephone booth on the corner of 24th and York streets in San Francisco on Nov. 15, 1986. The exhibition of Moses' paintings and drawings, at Galeria de la Raza, 2831 24th St., on display until Feb. 21, is an aching reminder of the daily potential dangers we face, just in living in San Francisco.

The story is underscored by the fact that Moses was diagnosed with cystic fibrosis and had not been expected to live past his teens. He was also undoubtedly affected by the death of his father from lung cancer when Moses was only 17. Clearly Moses lived his life with the knowledge that death might be only steps away. And these perceptions are visibly reflected in his work.

A raw, unguarded, slightly sad and wistful energy cuts through Moses' work. Although his skills were still in the developmental stages, there is a unique viewpoint that vibrates from these creations, which underscores the tragedy of such a lost potential. Figures are caught, floating, falling, at unusual angular perspectives — somehow as if not of this world.

A mixed-media installation of Moses' bedroom/studio brings the viewer even more intimately into his heart. But the exhibition is oddly sexless except perhaps for the clue provided by a Frank O'Hara poem tacked to the installation wall. In the end, both my companion photographer Michael Rosen and I were shaken by the exhibit. Moses is someone we would have liked.

These shows were brought full circle by an exhibition of black and white photographs by Ann Meredith called *In Passing* at the Joseph Dee Museum of Photography, upstairs at Brooks Camera, 45 Kearny St., through Feb. 28. Meredith photographed her beloved grandmother during the last five days of her life in a nursing home. Meredith's project was understandably personally empowering and the experience and the photographs hold great meaning for her.

Excepting photojournalistic documentation of death on city streets and on the battlefields of war, the most potent images of the crossing over from life to death were captured by Dan and Mark Jury (the filmmakers of *Dances Sacred and Profane*) in a book of photographs called *Gramps* and Richard Avedon's increasingly scary portraits of his father as he approached death. Meredith's pictures only touch the universal when her grandmother's face clearly reflects the universal face of death.

This was the least emotionally touching of the four shows, although I left the exhibition outraged. The Joseph Dee Museum of Photography is actually a back room caught among offices on the second floor of Brooks Camera. Inventory books were scattered everywhere, trash was piled on the floor, an empty display case interfered with reasonable viewing of some photographs and an employee working on the inventory books interfered with my viewing of others. For people who should know better, the "museum" and their attending attitudes are an insult to photography in general and the subject matter in particular. It is not surprising that there is so little reverence for the dead and dying when there is still so little reverence for the living.

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Lucie Blue Tremblay
Olivia

Lucie Blue Tremblay, the debut album of this exquisite singer/songwriter from Montreal, is my first serious consideration for best album of this year.

Her voice is gentle yet powerful, her manner very warm and loving. She sings in both English and French, and her French is so beautifully sung it will move you even if you don't understand a word of the language. Songs like "Mademoiselle" are so romantic they bring a lump to the throat.

She thanks her audience for accepting her culture (half the album was recorded in concert at the Great American Music Hall) and then begins singing "St. Jean Port Joli;" almost crying with her voice. During the instrumental portion of the song she whistles, a powerful whistle that's as strong and as beautiful as her voice.

"Do you think you can sing with me?" she asks plaintively. Her English audience follows her lead and sings along in French.

Lucie Blue Tremblay is a rare artist who deserves our admiration and attention. Her album should be heard by all.

You can see Lucie Blue in concert on Saturday, May 2, at the Zellerbach Auditorium on the Berkeley campus (the program will also feature Cris Williamson and Tret Fure). Since she continues to make her home in Canada, she does not perform in this area often. Do not miss this rare opportunity to see her.

Edges of the Heart

Tret Fure
Olivia

Listening to Tret Fure's new album and hearing songs from that album performed in concert are two decidedly different ex-



Tret Fure

periences. On record, songs like "Tight Black Jeans" are pleasant but ordinary examples of bubble gum rock. Performed on stage by Tret at the Great American Music Hall, "Tight Black Jeans" becomes an exciting, stand up and cheer rock & roll number.

Tret Fure was one of several performers featured at the recent benefit concert for the Native American Treaty Council at the Great American Music Hall. The Tret Fure Band is an exciting and sexy onstage presence. Tret's voice is strong and emotional, and she knows how to captivate an audience.

Her new album, *Edges of the Heart*, has songs that seem to be geared for the top-40s radio market. "I Move For Your Love" is a nice song, and her voice sounds good. Like many cuts on the album, it's a song that could easily become a big hit, and just as easily be forgotten soon after. Still, any band that's willing to stand up for a worthy human rights cause deserves to be supported, and Tret Fure is great in concert.

Tret Fure will be appearing with Lucie Blue Tremblay and Cris Williamson on May 2 at the Zellerbach Auditorium at UC Berkeley. (Continued on page 44)

Philip Campbell

Hail and Farewell

After three months spent guest conducting in Europe and Japan, Maestro Herbert Blomstedt returned to San Francisco in January for a triumphant series that will culminate in the Symphony's departure for its first European tour in 14 years.

A big welcome home is unnecessary since the stay will be so brief, but characteristically Blomstedt is using the time well, letting us hear first most of the pieces that will be performed abroad in what amounts to something of an "out of continent" tryout.

Audience response has been predictably enthusiastic, but the Maestro is too seasoned to discount foreign musical taste and prejudices. Time is precious for practice and polishing if the jaded central Europeans are to be given a fresh insight into works that did, after all, originate there.

If our musicians can maintain their current winning streak under Blomstedt's brilliant tutelage, their 75th Anniversary celebration and ambitious road show may truly prove to be an historic turning point. American music making has become a time-honored tradition, and I think the Europeans will be surprised at how proficient the "upstarts" have become.

Was it Toscanini who said, "There are no bad acoustics, only bad performances"? It could easily be Herbert Blomstedt's motto. Sitting in the same general area for weeks on end, season after season, one can still — amazingly — perceive variability in the sound balance and dynamics of Davies Hall.

When I notice strong improvement in the acoustics, my first thought is whether or not those ugly banners are actually of some use. They are rarely used, however, and the difference when they're down is negligible. The floating discs over the orchestra are more pleasing to the eye and they surely must affect the sound, but they too are seldom positioned differently. Certain visiting conductors, notably Erich Leinsdorf, have given Davies a sumptuous ambience, so it must have something to do with the understanding of sonorities.

Classical and chamber pieces sound agreeable in the dry, rapid decay time, but big lush Romantic works suffer and sound "dinky-fied" as Leonard Bernstein was heard to observe.

Blomstedt is well aware of the problems. His cautious commentary on the subject early in his tenure has given way to practical performance solutions and the results are tangible whenever he

conducts.

A real case in point appeared with the Maestro's leadership of the Bartok Third Piano Concerto and Bruckner's Symphony No. 6 recently.

Modern works fare well in Davies generally, but piano soloists must dread the muddy effects achieved with even the most bravura technique. Blomstedt sought to clarify pianist Andras Schiff's position in the moody, evocative sound world of Bartok's dreamiest concerto. The results electrified the harrowing passage work and made each note crystal clear during the many soft moments. Schiff earned his ovation, but he couldn't have done it without Blomstedt's almost sculptural assistance.

In sharp contrast, Bruckner's magnificent Symphony manages to sound Wagnerian in scope, while employing a Brahms-size orchestra. The concerto proved more complimentary than one might suppose. Bruckner's demands on the horn section are staggering and the musicians responded heroically. The Maestro was less successful in combating the hall's obstinate refusal to resonate, but if the glory of the first movement's conclusion was blunted by this, a real sense of the

(Continued on page 43)

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Overcoming Societal Barriers

Many of us take great pride in the social progress made since 1969's Stonewall Revolution. Thanks to the Herculean efforts of a small group of drag queens, gay men and women can now go about their lives with a sense of dignity and strong feelings of self-worth. Even when confronted with the cruel pressures of our current health crisis, few have expressed a desire to step back into the closet. Why not? Because their hard-won psychic, social, and sexual freedom has become far too precious to them to think about sacrificing their souls in order to gain a false sense of security.

Although most of us have experienced the bitter consequences of homophobic prejudice in our lives, other societal pressures — such as racial intolerance, feuding families, and rigid class structures — can be equally devastating with regard to life, love, and the pursuit of happiness. The literature of the theater often helps to remind us just how oppressive life used to be back in the days before liberation became a popular concept. In recent months, several productions in which true love conquers societal oppression have offered extremely satisfying emotional rewards.

MOVIN' ON UP

During a recent trip to Washington, I caught a superb performance of Lorraine Hansberry's *A Raisin In The Sun* and discovered that, although some people might expect this intense

racial drama (which premiered on Broadway in 1959) to be quite dated, it still packs an emotional wallop. The desperation of the Younger family to leave their squalid Chicago apartment, move to a house in the suburbs, and change their lives — both materially and spiritually — reveals a wealth of confused identities which have been beaten down over the years by one shattered dream after another. The family's desperate hope and, by the end of the play, their solid determination not to allow any dreams to be delayed for the sake of someone else's comfort, poignantly address the basic human need for dignity and self-respect.

While Starletta DuPois's Ruth, Del Roy Lindo's Walter, and Kim Yancy's Beneatha were all solid characterizations, I was especially impressed by Esther Rolle's performance as the fierce matriarch of the Younger clan. Less brooding than others who have portrayed Lena Younger, Rolle demonstrated a dramatic strength rarely seen in her television work. Along with her colleagues, she brought a great sense of warmth and vitality to *A Raisin In The Sun* while demonstrating that Hansberry's ground-breaking drama may be much more of a classic than we give it credit for.

TEENAGE SUICIDE IS NOT THE ANSWER

Speaking of the classics, one need look no further than *Romeo and Juliet* for an example of how true love can be thwarted by societal pressures. Considering the

growing number of teenage suicides these days, it's interesting to note that Shakespeare's tragedy is now being used in the classroom as a means of examining how and why literature's star-crossed lovers received so little support from their friends.

I've always felt Gounod's score for *Romeo et Juliette* is a much stronger and tighter piece of work than the composer's *Faust* and, in the Met's recent revival, Plácido Domingo's conducting captured all of the dramatic strength and romantic lyricism inherent in the score. With Domingo on the podium and Alfredo Kraus onstage, a great deal of attention was focused on the fact that two of the world's greatest tenors were working in the same production. However, a certain amount of credit for the evening's success should also be given to Allan Glassman who, as Tybalt, sang remarkably well and continues to make an impressive transition from baritone to tenor roles. An alumnus of Western Opera Theatre, Glassman has developed a powerful, ringing top voice which will yield many a money note in the near future. Keep your eyes on him.

In this production of *Romeo et Juliette*, the ever-reliable Hilda Harris sang the role of Stephano while Brian Schexnayder appeared as Mercutio. Making her Met debut, Cecilia Gasdia struck me as a very pretty and pleasant Juliette. Dramatically strong and vocally quite interesting, this young Italian soprano has great potential.

As for Alfredo Kraus' Romeo,



Alfredo Kraus and Cecilia Gasdia were Shakespeare's star-crossed lovers in the Met's revival of Gounod's *Romeo et Juliette*

what does one say about perfection? Watching the man work — and enjoying an opportunity to appreciate the purity of his voice, the intelligence of his style, and the overwhelmingly brilliant musicianship in his singing — is a rare artistic treat. A curious indication of the Spanish tenor's effectiveness onstage might be noted in the fact that, although he is now 60 years old, Kraus seemed to get younger and younger as the evening wore on. But I shouldn't really be surprised by such artful deception, for miracles are among this tenor's stock-in-trade.

LEAVING LAMBETH BEHIND

Last spring, when I saw *Me and My Girl* in London, I had grave reservations about just how well this musical comedy would travel across the Atlantic unless certain changes were made in the production. At the first performance I caught, the hero was portrayed by Enn Reitel who, although quite talented, seemed ancient. The role of Sally was sung by Su Pollard, an English talk-show personality whose performance seemed quite mechanical. Certain characters, most notably the Duchess of Dene and Herbert Parchester — a Gilbert & Sullivan patter role disguised as the family solicitor — were so rooted in the British social struc-

(Continued on page 43)

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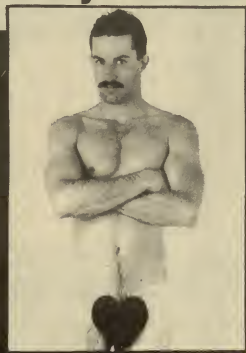


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Brave New Worlds

Finally. It took two brave new commissioned ballets to do it, but the San Francisco Ballet finally looks refreshed after a 1986 season subdued by internal transition. In choosing choreographers as strikingly different as James Kudelka and William Forsythe, artistic director Helgi Tomasson has given the company an unusually broad horizon for its 1987 season, extending the performing capabilities of his dancers while expanding the vision of his audience.

With *Dreams of Harmony*, Canadian choreographer James Kudelka set himself a number of challenges, including a reorientation of the male dancers and unusual experiments in mass, structure, and partnering. With such challenges in mind, it is surprising that Kudelka chose so complex and erratic a score as the *Symphony No. 2* by Robert Schumann (used in its entirety), but he achieves at least a happy coexistence with Schumann and occasionally, a true marriage. In a simpler ballet, the interplay of Kudelka's ideas with Schumann's would have been a point of great interest. But *Dreams of Harmony* suffers from the sin of excess; in sum there are enough musical and dance ideas to flesh out several ballets.

A Balanchine quotation almost as famous as "Ballet is wo-

man" goes: "Put 16 girls on a stage and it's everybody — the world. But put 16 boys and it's always nobody." Kudelka uses 13 boys in the first movement of *Dreams of Harmony*, beginning with a solo that celebrates the grandeur of Christopher Boatwright's controlled adagio and exploring, before the movement has ended, every conceivable type of male dancing: fast, slow, lyrical, and virtuosic, in solos and ensembles. The men even support each other briefly. For me, this world had variety at least equal to a female corps de ballet; perhaps Balanchine should have tried it.

But the boldest redefinition of male dancing comes at the beginning of the scherzo movement that follows, when two trios of men join hands and whirl around the stage in childlike abandon. Never have I seen men used in quite this way, and when a trio of women later took the stage, joining hands much as the men had, I found myself re-examining the entire notion of sexuality in dance. Finally, the stage contained four trios of dancers in random arrangements, summing up the point that occurred to me during the all-male first movement: As artists who dance, everybody is equal in ballet. It is choreographers who put the sexual-

(Continued on page 43)

Here Comes Uncle Oscar

When the Academy Award nominations are announced next Thursday, an unusual number of nominees should be on view in local theaters. This week's re-issue of *Hannah and Her Sisters* joins the exceptionally long-running *A Room with a View*, *Blue Velvet*, *The Color of Money*, *Stand by Me*, *The Mission*, and *Sid and Nancy*, as well as the newer *Platoon*.

Prime foreign language candidates open this week (*My Sweet Little Village*) and soon (*The Sacrifice*), while *Betty Blue* and *The Decline of the American Empire* continue, and documentary probability *Mother Teresa* remains at the Roxie for weekend matinees.

JEWEL BOX REVUE

Return with Woody Allen to those thrilling days of yesteryear, as he turns the pages of his family album in *Radio Days*. This charming jewel-box of a movie uses a warmly humorous family portrait like *Brighton Beach Memoirs* as a cameo within a larger setting.

Radio brought glamour and excitement into the homes and lives of ordinary people in the '30s and '40s as television does today, but letting imagination furnish the visual element. If the two worlds met it would have spoiled the magic, but there were occasional crossovers — a chance encounter with a "whiz kid" at the zoo, a cigarette girl (Mia Farrow) whose dream of radio stardom comes true.

Woody blends real and imaginary memories, creates new legends to complement the old ones, and uses more than 40 songs for their evocative power (where were you when you heard ...?). Like everything else, his parents (Julie Kavner, Michael Tucker) are the subject of humor ("two people who could find an argument in any subject") and wistfulness ("the only time I ever saw them kiss"). One of his rare gay characters is a young man (Robert Joy) his spinster aunt (Dianne Wiest) develops a crush on.

As a director Allen fills every inch of the screen with golden images and a sterling cast that includes most of his familiar stock company, if only in brief appearances.

"I wonder if future generations will ever hear about us," muses the voice (Wallace Shawn) of the "Masked Avenger." Thanks to Woody Allen, they will. "Forgive me if I tend to romanticize the past," Woody begs. All filmmakers should need such forgiveness! (Kabuki 8)

A-M — SIZZLE AND SLEAZE

The Two Mrs. Grenvilles is a super showcase for the two Ann-Margrets. In the first part — rich boy meets showgirl; rich boy marries showgirl; the honeymoon ends — she looks sensational, changing her Nolan Miller creations every five minutes against enough luxurious backgrounds to fill a season of *Lifestyles of the Rich and Famous*.

The second night features Ann-Margret the actress letting all the emotional stops out as she shoots her husband, faces a grand jury, receives her come-downance from the social stra-

tum she had only married into till death did them part, and ages gracefully into a dirty, middle-aged woman.

Dominick Dunne's novel *The Two Mrs. Grenvilles* is a brittle, bitter social satire narrated in queenly fashion by Basil Plant, a Truman Capote-type writer. Derek Marlowe's adaptation distills a lot of the juicy stuff out of the story and removes most of the gay elements. A lesbian character is never introduced; a gay decorator is unseen, unheard, and unsexed at the other end of the telephone; and there's only one oblique reference to Basil's sexuality.

Although the confrontations between the two Mrs. Grenvilles — Ann-Margret and Claudette Colbert as her mother-in-law — doesn't have the sizzle they might, there's sizzle aplenty of another kind between A-M (who, checking out the merchandise, declares "You're too big a boy to be called 'Junior'") and Stephen Collins, who establishes himself — if he hadn't already — as a major hunk, a younger version of what Redford is supposed to be but never really was. John Rubinstein is good as his perhaps-too-close preppy pal, and Elizabeth Ashley seems to be having fun as the former showgirl whose marriage failed because "He said he loved me just the way I was — and I believed him."

For two hours of glamorous suds and two more of riveting drama, you can't go too far wrong with *The Two Mrs. Grenvilles*. (KRON-TV, Feb 8-9)

SWEET CREAM LADIES

Working Girls opens with the standard scene of a New York couple waking up. They have breakfast with their child, and one of them goes off to work. Aside from the couple being interracial, the only unusual elements are that they're both women and Molly (Louise Smith) works in a whorehouse. A whore-apartment, actually.

It's just a job. The boss (Ellen McDuff) is a ditz, money-grubbing bitch. The clients range from sweet to weird to shits. When things are slow the "working girls" — a term at least one of them prefers to their more common job descriptions — sit around complaining, dreaming, getting high, and talking shop. Dawn (Amanda Goodwin) speaks of going to law school and boasts, "In the five years I've gone out with Fred I haven't cheated on him once." That's how discreet their jobs are from their lives.

"I've completely lost my fear of men," says Molly, the lesbian who has two college degrees and a lover who doesn't know where she works. When a "new girl" hesitates about getting into a three-way — "I've always been afraid of dykes" — Molly chides her gently, "Do I look like a dyke?" The question of what she's doing in a place like this is never answered, but what else are degrees in Art History and English Lit good for?

Working Girls is easygoing and generally undramatic. It demystifies prostitution without making any statement about it. The use of condoms is encouraged but not required, and AIDS is never mentioned. Surprisingly, feminist filmmaker Lizzie Borden (*Born in Flames*) features far more female nudity than male



Getting Sentimental Over You — Dianne Wiest finds her ardor for Robert Joy dimming in Woody Allen's *Radio Days* when she learns his previous romantic attachment was named Leonard.

— only one penis is briefly glimpsed. She's made a quantum leap from her strident, incoherent first film to this one, which should please both the curious and those who just want to be entertained. It could be the basis for a sitcom on cable TV. It will be at the Opera Plaza after tonight's benefit premiere at the Gateway for COYOTE's AIDS and safe sex education project.

BUBBLE BUSTER

When composer Lee Curreri gives rock singer Tawny Kitaen a piece of sheet music, she looks at it, her eyes light up, and she exclaims, "It's a song!" Vanna White, look to your laurels!

That's the boy-meets-girl scene of *Crystal Heart*, an early contender for worst movie of 1987. The gimmick is that Curreri has a disease that restricts him to living in a germ-free environment. Because his family is wealthy he has a high-tech room, the Disneyland of "bubbles." It's hinted that he could live a brief but normal life on the outside, but he and Tawny are thwarted by

his overprotective mother (May Heatherly) and her manipulative manager (Simon Andreu, the gay banker in Eloy de la Iglesia's *Hidden Pleasures*). There's also a suspicious closeness between Tawny and backup singer Marcea D. Lane.

Curreri is the same type as John Travolta, who did *The Boy in the Plastic Bubble* for TV. *Crystal Heart* may play okay on video as a teenage tearjerker, but the big screen magnifies its faults until the bubble bursts. Give it points, however, for a scene of safe sex — through glass. (Kabuki 8)

ALL THE QUEEN'S MEN

The British love their sex scandals, even the rare heterosexual one such as the fictional case explored in *Defence of the Realm*, a new release in the "newspaper thriller" category.

Darkly handsome Irishman Gabriel Byrne, poised to become a major leading man, is the reporter investigating M.P. Ian Bannen's involvement with a call girl who also serviced a KGB

agent. Not only does the story wreck Bannen's career, but it leads to the death of Byrne's associate Denholm Elliott, who had known Bannen during a youthful flirtation with communism.

The investigation leads to High Places, endangering not only Byrne's life but his chances of a relationship with Bannen's secretary, Greta Scacchi. At long last he fits other news events into the puzzle — teenagers trying to escape from reform school, a bombing in Turkey, and murky activities of the U.S. Air Force. The ending won't make you stand up and cheer, but it's not as downbeat as it might have been.

Incidentally, David Puttnam was executive producer long before joining Coca-Cola Pictures, so that can't account for Elliott saying he drinks "vodka and Coca-Cola — detente in a glass."

Fans of a certain kind of topical mystery will find *Defence of the Realm* a crackling good one. (Kabuki 8)

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Mr. Marcus

The Presidents and The Leather Men

Aside from the emperor and empress candidates throwing parties all over town last week, a lot was happening to keep the natives from getting restless. BAYOPS, the non-profit group of computer hobbyists and pros — they operate those exoticlesoteric computer bulletin boards — gathered more than 200 strong Friday night, 30 Jan., in the patio of the SF Eagle and partied with a lovely beer bust. If you've got a personal computer and a modem, you can plug into any number of bulletin boards to keep you off the streets and meet some very interesting people. Anybody owning a computer and a modem (hopefully) is no fly-by-night. Some of their more interesting computer hook-ups include Daddy's BBS (Bulletin Board System), the Kinky Komputer #3, SF T-Room, Hot House, and Folsom Street. If interested in getting involved without messing up your hardware furniture, contact BAYOPS by writing to USPO Box 282171, SF, CA 94128-2171.



Dan Jeansson, president of the SF Forum and member of the Constantines M/C, was elected President of the Year by a body of his peers last Saturday (Photo: Marcus)

Saturday night the Cheaters M/C staged its annual convention at the Intl. Center on Oak Street. This event annually elects the President of the Year from all the club presidents. It's sort of a mini-political convention with nominating speeches, demonstrations, sign-carrying, and balloting at least four times during the evening. The Corresponding Secretary of the Year with some 50 points was Paul Ciancolo of the Cal Eagles, followed by Ms. Pigi of the Cheaters with 30. After the rousing cheers, demonstrations on the floor and many, many speeches, Dan Jeansson, President of the SF Forum and member of the Constantines M/C, was elected President of the Year. I don't know if anyone is keeping any statistics, but last year Matthew Brown won the title and later went on to become Emperor of SF. At this point in time, Dan Jeansson along with the indefatigable Warren Cave and the enormously popular Rocky Rockwood of the Cheaters M/C have been nominated for Man of the Year at the Motorcycle Awards. Voted upon by club members and certain independents, it is perhaps the most coveted of the motorcycle awards. Feb. 28 will tell, and good luck to all the nominees!

Across town the same night, Saturday, literally hundreds of leather men and adherents to the genre converged for a good old-fashioned leather soiree. Unbelievable as it may seem, the party was a scant few steps from 23rd and (are you ready?) Nellie Alley! I tried my darndest to get several hunks to pose for a photo under the sign, but no one would do it. I don't know how it happened, but I finally managed to get someone to do the number! Let's see how it turned out! Anyway, there were all these bulging muscles, leather, chaps, tits and ass, much moaning and groan-

ing, most loins, furtive eyes, suggestive glances, jockeying for position, jockeying in position, jockeying. It was juicy all right. Thank God there are no occupancy regulations for some of these private parties. The whole place was throbbing with leather, sweat, and the clinking of chains and glasses filled with bubbly, and those present included a few who flew in from L.A., Chicago, Texas, and London. Yeah, if you didn't get an invite, I hate to say "eat your heart out," but then again. The names have been omitted to protect the hosts, but those of you who were there know who to thank for that hot dude you met!

No plans for the days ahead? Tonight they'll be looking for Mr. June '88 on the Endup's Buns Calendar beginning at 2200. Friday, Feb. 6, they're having a Miss \$1.98 Beauty Pageant at Showfolks of America Hall (827 Hyde) beginning at 2000 for a \$5 donation (a benefit for AIDS Lobbyists) hosted by the Grand Ducal Council. Danny Williams will MC and it should be a hoot!

That same night City Swing, the Tap Troupe, and the Ritz Dancers come together at the Troc to prove social dancing is on the rise with a tea dance (it's Dancing Cheek to Cheek) beginning at 1730 (right after work!) until 2030. The tickets are only \$6. Now tell me where can you find all this great entertainment, close dancing a la Glenn Miller, and the captivating Gail Wilson vocalizing for three solid hours? Hey, don't go home and sort out

your laundry for Saturday's chores! Live it up a little! After the dance drop into the Warehouse on 11th & Folsom for some good industrial cuisine. While you're there say hi to Ms. Peckers and that cute Richard, the manager. He's from Hawaii and looks like he just stepped off the beach with that great tan all the time!

Lots of the biker crowd will be journeying down to Los Angeles this weekend for the crowning of the Rex of the Oedipus Motorcycle Club. The Constantines are throwing a beer bust down there too and throwing in their support for Bob Linsley, manager of the Gauntlet II, who's been nominated for Bitch of Bitches at the Maggie Awards down there. Bob's been nominated for that award three times already and hasn't won yet! Rebel Empress Suzy Parker will try to remedy that situation this year!

The Cal Eagles M/C will celebrate its Third Anniversary with an early evening reception at the SF Eagle's patio Saturday night too, so hope you have a good time hoisting the cheer!

George Burgess, one of the many stars on the board of the AIDS Emergency Fund, will celebrate his birthday this weekend, so happy birthday, George, and many, many more to a great guy!

By the way, the AIDS Emergency Fund is having this nifty \$50 a person celebration at the Warehouse Feb. 16 with Sharon McNight and me on the catbird seat. Sharon will entertain and I'll be seated on the cat. Danny Williams will present an all new (Continued on next page)



Ms. Kitty will be there to wow you at Heart to Art, a benefit for Coming Home Hospice at Club Nine Feb. 11

Marcus

(Continued from previous page)

act and if you're lucky, you can win an evening for two on the town with a chauffeured limo, dinner at the Cafe Majestic, and a show at the Venetian Room! Call 441-6407 for tickets. Do it now! Sir!

The Saddle Tramps will host a Valentine's Day party Sunday, 15 Feb., at the Rawhide II with a bunch of great door prizes and only \$3 cover, which includes a buffet and lots of get-down dancing.

If you're planning ahead, the Mr. Financial District Contest is April 18, so get your three-piece suit, wing-tips, and unscented underarm deodorant together if you want to get into the fray. Mark DeCicco, last year's winner, can't wait to unload the title on the 1987 winner!

Next Tuesday they're having a burlesque show to benefit the Intl. Ms. Leather Contest at the Baybrick Inn, (that's Feb. 10) beginning at 2100. Tattoo Blue, Pepper, Rock 'n' Roll Ramona, and Rainbow will perform their specialty acts for a mere \$5 admission charge! This sounds like a great party!

The J/O Buddies are having a Feb. 14 party too — Get A Heart On — 890 Folsom, you know the rules and the admission price. Saturday night at the J/O emporium should be a thrusting good time! I just jove the J/O Buddies' newsletter — it's called "Strokes"!

Speaking of strokes, it took

lots of hard work and more than a stroke of luck for Sara Lewenstein's success with the Artemis Cafe. And what a sweet valentine for our Sara, celebrating that same night the 10th anniversary of a landmark in our community. They'll be partying down at the Artemis that night! Congratulations, Ms. L., and many more years of success!

They're celebrating up there on Twin Peaks Blvd., too! Mercury Mail Order just two days ago released the long awaited *Dildo* — *The Movie*, another one of those "how to" video tapes that, as you would suspect, goes into the hows, wherefores, and whys of dildoes. The young, energetic Christopher Aables graduated from cock and ball toys months ago and teams up with Bob Caldecott (love that name) in a one-hour marathon with a story line on how to select, use, and love your dildo. Hundreds of MMO customers have ordered the film long before it was completed, and it's now available to you via mail order on BETA or VHS for only \$69.95 plus \$2.55 postage and handling. Call 621-1188 and have your charge card ready. Be the first one on your block to become an expert on the subtle art of dildo-ing!

Speaking of videos, Falcon Studios, supreme in male erotica, just released Falcon Pac #50, their golden anniversary pac called *Giant Splash II*. This watery episode features Jeff Quinn, Eric Manchester, and John Rocklin, but the standout performer in this one is former Advocate Men coverman Chad Douglas. Featured in three ex-

tremely hot sequences, Chad Douglas has got to be in the front line for porn star of the year. He's not one of those cute blond queens with big meat. This is material for Top of Tops! Don't miss this one! If Chad Douglas don't turn you on, you're either straight or deliciously frigid. Falcon Studios, you've outdone yourself on this one!

IDOL GOSSIP

While I'd hardly be serious about calling Dean Gibson an idol, he did fly into town cuppla weeks ago and was seen having an intimate dinner with Brett Brown and another married cou-

ple! Dean has deserted the employment he had at a hustler bar in Hollywood for a rustler bar (western) in the SF Valley (that's San Fernando, honey).

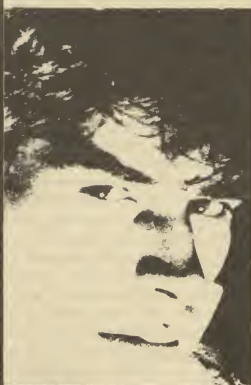
And talk about touchy! The committee supporting Tina Tanner for empress was less than cordial with me when shrieking that Tina did indeed have a South of Market fundraiser (at the SF Eagle) and raised \$500 for former Empress Jane Doe! While I do admire la Tanner for her benevolent acts, I do not admire anyone on her committee who may think I have a crystal ball and can see all things at all times everywhere! When will candi-

dates realize that sometimes their supporters are their biggest liabilities?

If you get a chance to see those fabulous Shigeo Fukuda sculptures at the Asian Art Museum, you may have your own opinion about the objets d'art themselves, but the setting wherein they dwell was installed by our own Walt Gorman! Who's Walt Gorman, you may ask? I don't know where he hangs out these days, but he was a habitue of the Ambush until it closed. As for the Chronicle critic who characterized Walt's installation of the show as "slap dash," did he ever

(Continued on page 44)

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Warren Cave (L.), Rocky Rockwood, and Dan Jeansson, candidates for Man of the Year at the Barbary Coasters Motorcyle Awards Feb. 28 (Photo: Marcus)

And The Nominees Are

The nominees for the 1987 Barbary Coasters Motorcycle Awards have been finalized! Last Friday, ten representatives from various motorcycle clubs and independents met at the home of Barbary Coasters Vice President Bob Rowbottom and proceeded to tally all the nominees for the various categories for the annual Motorcycle Awards. The awards are to honor achievements accomplished during the 1986 calendar year. Eligible voters were sent nominating ballots in late December to nominate individuals and clubs in designated categories. Riders and Buddies had an additional ballot to nominate motorcycle field events in the rider and buddy categories, as well as overall field events. Also, club members were given a separate ballot to nominate the 1986 Man of the Year.

To be eligible to nominate and vote for the awards, an individual must have attended a specific percentage of intown and weekend out-of-town motorcycle runs. The intown runs are usually one-day affairs. The weekend runs are held over a three or four-day period. With the number of clubs increasing and hosting runs, the percentage increases and likewise, the number of eligible voters decreases. Sound strange? It goes this way: Most clubs have both an intown and out-of-town run. Intown runs count as one point and weekend runs count as

two points. This year there were 10 weekend runs and/or tours and 12 one-day runs that had motorcycle events (this is required for the run to be eligible for nominations). Considering that the cost of weekend runs are around \$60 to \$100 (depending on the number of days) and intown runs are from \$6 to \$10, it can be an expensive proposition. When there were not so many clubs hosting runs and the costs were less, club members and independents attended all of the runs, thus more people nominated and voted for the awards. Unfortunately, many

'This is not the only reason why fewer people are attending motorcycle functions.'

club members and independents are being selective as to which runs they will attend during the year and may sometimes not accumulate the necessary points to become eligible to nominate and vote.

This is not the only reason why fewer people are attending motorcycle functions. There are so many other functions and/or causes that are also vying for the Almighty Dollar that sometimes

it is difficult to decide which function or cause an individual will use their hard-earned money for. It may be that each of the clubs should take a hard and painful look at what their club is doing. Some of the clubs have experienced a decline in attendance at their runs. It may be that there might be a general agreement between all of the clubs that clubs alternate hosting runs. An example would be that each club draw a number and those clubs with even numbers would host a run in even-numbered years and those with odd numbers host in odd-numbered years. Another alternative would be to possibly consider hosting joint runs with one or more clubs involved. I'm not unaware of the personalities that might clash, but I think for the sake of encouraging participation, providing a top-notch function, and creating teamwork among the various clubs, this might be a way of showing our solidarity and commitment to brotherhood. Food for thought!

The following are the nominees for the 1987 Barbary Coasters awards. (Ballots are being mailed to eligible voters.) **Best Open Social:** Barbary Coasters 20th Anniversary; Constantines Mix and Match; Cycle Runners Toga Party; S.F. GDI A Date at Minsky's. **Best Run Theme:** Barbary Coasters Class of '66; Cycle Runners Dynasty III; Constantines Magic Kingdom; Cheaters VooDoo Festival of



Empress candidate Tatiana

(Photo: Photo Graphics/Darlene)

Drums. **Best Non-Bike Competitive Event On A Run:** Barbary Coasters Gold Panning; Cheaters Horse Shoes; Cycle Runners Ice Cream Social; S.F. GDI Miss GDI Contest. **Best Weekend Run:** Barbary Coasters; Cheaters; Constantines; Cycle Runners. **Best Individual Number In A Run Show:** Anthony Vega "Fat As I Am" Debu-Tramp Ball; Rocky Rockwood "Love Potion #9" VooDoo Festival of Drums; Cameron Tanner "My Boy Lollipop" Class of '66; Fritz Hall "These Boots are Made for Walking" Class of '66. **Best Group Number In A Run Show:** "Tossin' & Turning" Class of '66; "4 Tops - 4 Temptations" Class of '66; "No-tell Motel" Magic Kingdom; "Endless Love" VooDoo Festival of Drums. **Best One-Day Run:** Barbary Coasters Hoedown for Hospice; Warlocks Easter Run; S.F. GDI Midsummer Madness;

Constantines Twelve Incher. **Best Food On A Weekend Run:** Barbary Coasters; Cheaters; Cycle Runners; Warlocks. **Best Show On A Weekend Run:** Barbary Coasters; Cheaters; Constantines; Cycle Runners. **Best Performance By An Individual In An In-Town Show:** Cameron Tanner "Lady of Spain" Minsky's; Blair "Memories" Minsky's; Bobby Wong "Somewhere Over the Rainbow" Folsom Follies; Jerry Albert "Strike Up The Band" Folsom Follies. **Best Performance By A Group In An In-Town Show:** ICF Representatives "Brotherhood" Folsom Follies; S.F. GDI "I'll Never Grow Up" Folsom Follies; Deena Jones and Sandy Sorrelles "Find Out What They Want" Minsky's; Tommy Janes and Cast "Star Tar" Folsom Follies; Barbary Coasters "Sex Crimes" Folsom Follies;

(Continued on next page)

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Empress candidate Tina Tanner

(Photo: Photo Graphics/Darlene)



Empress candidate Lily Street
(Photo: Photo Graphics/Darlene)

Remy

(Continued from previous page)

Cast Finale "Winter Wonderland" Folsom Follies. **Buddy Motorcycle Event of The Year:** Gathering Nuts, Constantines; Dress for the Ball, Warlocks; Flower Power, Barbary Coasters; Rings on Head, Cheaters; Spaghetti/Fortune Cookies, Cycle Runners. **Rider Motorcycle Event of The Year:** When You Wish Upon a Star,

ny Williams. Proceeds will go to the AIDS Lobbyists in Washington, D.C. A \$5 donation is requested at the door.

Also on the same night, the fourth All Candidates Night will be held at the Kokpit (Turk and Leavenworth streets) starting at 8 p.m. You are encouraged to attend and meet the candidates for Emperor and Empress. This is

'Good luck to the candidates, and we'll find out who the winner is at the Coronation Ball Feb. 21 at the Giftcenter. See you there!'

Constantines; Slow Race, Warlocks; Match Comix Characters, S.F. GDI; Flower Power, Barbary Coasters. **Club With Best Overall Motorcycle Field Events In-Town:** Constantines; Barbary Coasters; Warlocks; Cycle Runners. **Best Campsite On A Weekend Run:** Golden Gate Guards; 42nd Street Gang; Our Gang. **Best Guest Night Show Number:** Darwin Silcock "Respect" Warlocks Run; Marty Ramos, Gene Forrest, Jonni Valle "Champagne Ladies" Warlocks Run; 42nd Street Gang "Hands Across America" Cheaters Run; Dan Jeansson "The Show Must Go On" CMC Run. **Man of The Year:** Warren Cave, Independent; Dan Jeansson, Constantines; Rocky Rockwood, Cheaters.

The Barbary Coasters Motorcycle Awards will take place Saturday, Feb. 28, at the Showfolks of Americal Hall (827 Hyde St.). Tickets are \$10 in advance and \$12 at the door. For ticket, table, or general information, contact Bob Rowbottom at 821-6079 or any member of the Barbary Coasters. Doors open at 6 p.m. The awards and show will begin at 8 p.m.

UP AND COMING

The Grand Ducal Council of San Francisco will host the Miss \$1.98 Beauty Pageant Friday, Feb. 6, at the Showfolks of Americal Hall (827 Hyde St.). The pageant starts at 8 p.m. and will be hosted by comedian Dan-

your chance to ask them questions on a one-to-one basis.

The California Eagles will host its 3rd Anniversary and Introduction of Officers Saturday, Feb. 7, at the S.F. Eagle. Admission is by invitation or club colors.

Candidate for Emperor Rick Manring will present a "Black and Gold" Beer Bust Sunday, Feb. 8, at the Transfer (14th and Church streets) from 3 to 6 p.m. It will benefit the AIDS Food Bank and a donation of \$6 is requested. Hosting the event will be Miss Paulette and Ms. Piggy.

Thursday, Feb. 12, "Floating Away at Margaritaville" will take place at the Galleon (14th Street at Church) from 8 to 11 p.m. Hosting this campaign party for Rick will be Desiree and Michael Russo. Special Guests will be the Conquistadores Mariachi Band and a surprise appearance.

Candidate for Empress Lily Street will be trying to solve the crime of the decade and invites you to help her at the "Murder Mystery Night." It will be held at the Kokpit (Turk and Leavenworth) on Wednesday, Feb. 11, at 7 p.m. sharp! Clues will cost 50 cents apiece.

Then Friday, Feb. 13, Lily has her final Gala Event at Kimo's (Polk and Pine) starting at 9 p.m. There will be a special edition of Television's "Love Connection" along with food, fun, and entertainment.

Candidate for Empress Tina Tanner will host a "Tea Dance"

Sunday, Feb. 8, at the Galleon (14th and Church) from 3 to 6 p.m. Bring along your dancing shoes and kick up your heels. Tina's final campaign party will be Thursday, Feb. 12, at Kimo's starting at 8 p.m.

The final All Candidates Night will be Feb. 10 at the Galleon starting at 8 p.m. This will be your final chance to meet all the candidates in one place. This is also the home stretch towards election day. So, if you haven't made up your mind yet as to whom you're going to vote for, this is your chance.

DON'T FORGET

The election for Emperor and Empress will be held Saturday, Feb. 14, from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. at the San Franciscan Hotel (Carriage Entrance). Enter from the Eighth Street entrance. Voters from San Francisco, Marin, and San Mateo Counties are eligible to vote for these two offices. Please bring appropriate identification, as you may be requested to provide it. If you are in need of a ride to the polls, contact any of the candidates; they will provide transportation. Also, the candidates will have cars, trucks, and vans circulating throughout the city and stopping by the bars to pick up potential voters, so you can get a ride that way. Good luck to the candidates and we'll find out who the winner is at the Coronation Ball Feb. 21 at the Giftcenter. See you there!

DO DA DE

A Call for Help. Former Miss Gay San Francisco Parkay (Don Lemke) is in the hospital and needs to have 24-hour-watch volunteers. The volunteers would sit with Don because the hospital does not provide this service on a normal basis. Anyone who wants to help should contact Larry Parsons at 978-0649 (days) or 431-2327 (after 6 p.m.). If you can help, both Don and Larry would really appreciate it.

A correction to my last column. The Warlocks Pre-Awards party was originally scheduled to be held at the S.F. Eagle Saturday, Feb. 28, from 5 to 7 p.m. However, plans have changed and the party has been moved to the Showfolks of America Hall. It will start at 4 p.m. and end at 5:45 p.m., just prior to the Barbary Coasters Motorcycle Awards.

Birthday greetings to Bill Alls and the "Rocket." Hope you both had a wonderful time celebrating your youth! Best wishes for many more.

That's it for now. Don't forget to vote and hug someone today. Aloha!



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DICK WALTERS

Tickets are going fast for the 1987 Cable Car Awards and Show Saturday the 28th of February at 8 p.m. The City Swing Band with Gail Wilson and the S.F. Tap Troupe, Pauline, Jeanie Tracy, Teresa Trull, The Blazing Redheads, plus many more will do the entertaining. The M.C.s will be Bob Ross and Supervisor Nancy Walker and Hydie Downard and Rick Brattin. Tickets are available at all three Headlines stores, so get yours now.

Tommy Randall of the Stallion is laid up temporarily but our wishes are for you to get well soon — Dick Cook hates working the bar.

Nostalgia Note: Ray Piccinini with accompanist Denis Moreen opened on the 31st of January at the Crystal Pistol (formerly the Fickle Fox). This should bring back many memories.

Did you know Reba Rattle-

snake is now known as the Roach Lady? Hi, Chris Granger

Voting for Emperor and Empress will take place from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the San Franciscan Hotel Carriage Entrance (Market at 8th Street). So get out and vote for the candidate of your choice.

Ed Scott's Hob Nob on Geary Street has the one and only Billy Buns on mornings 'til noon and the great Casey on nights except for Tuesday and Wednesday, so do drop in and say hi and have a few drinks.

Make your reservations now for Thursday the 19th for a one-show-only performance at 10 p.m. of the great Michael Greer at the City Cabaret on Geary and Mason streets. Jay Noonan and Chester and yours truly will not miss this performance.

Gary, formerly of the Starlight Room for six years, is now on the plank mornings 6 'til noon at

the popular Covered Wagon, so do stop by and visit with him.

Wonder where Ginger's Trois will be? Could it be Polk Street, and could this be true, J.A.?

Quote from Rodney, formerly of the Transsexual Empire: Hormones and liquor don't mix, so Rockin' Rodney is now at the Queen Mary's Pub on Turk Street.

Ginger's Too is having a candidates night to help elect Tina Tanner that is being put on by Ms. Janet Corey with great entertainment Wednesday evening the 11th at 8 p.m., so do drop down and meet Tina Tanner and enjoy the show.

When out in the Castro area drop into Lupann's at Castro just down 18th Street for either a great brunch on the weekends or for a simply fabulous dinner nightly except Mondays. You are doing a great job, Curtis, and we'll be seeing you soon. Don't



David Ross and Chris Muss at their wedding at the Gangway

forget the favor I asked you for.

The Eternal Empress Flame is celebrating his 47th birthday on Thursday the 5th, which is tonight, at the popular Polk Gulch Saloon from 7 p.m. 'til midnight, so get on down and have a drink with the old bag.

Saturday the 14th Ginger's Too will hold a Sweetheart's Special Valentine's dinner with a choice of entrees. If you had our New Year's Eve dinner you'll not want to miss this one as it will even be better, if possible, and only \$10, so make your reservations early by calling 543-3622. There will also be piano entertainment that evening, so don't miss it.

Coming up the last weekend in April, right after Easter Sunday, will be a blockbuster of a party at the Embers/Avenue in Portland, so if you can make plans for that weekend do so now as I know Steve Suss and his staff are planning a party to end all parties. Yes, yours truly will probably be there for at least a week to help stir the pot.

Here's wishing you all a Happy Valentine's Day and be sure to bring your sweetheart to dinner that night at Ginger's Too as I'll be there with my seven slaves.

Happy birthday to Max on Friday the 6th. Hope you have many more.

Hot dish from The River: Joe Ellis is out — poor Terry! And a rumor has it that Erik is in the Manager's saddle.

Helen (Robbie) Trent now has a title — Homecoming Queen I

of the Kokpit and Viking fame. Hi, Vi!

Happy birthday to Vera of the Gold Room next Monday.

Here's wishing my slaves, Lew and Don, a Happy Seventh Anniversary on Valentine's Day.

Bring your pennies to the Kokpit for Mr. Lee-Ona's Pennies From Heaven drive for St. Anthony's.

Sunday the 15th the White Swallow will hold a buffet to raise funds for AIDS. The White Swallow staff and patrons in the past have raised more than \$1,700 for AIDS. Last Sunday the customers raised \$450 and Jim Anderson made it an even \$1,000. Thanks to Jim and the customers of the White Swallow and to Tom Martin and Bob Burns for their endurance and work in serving the crowds.

Don Cavallo (Fickle Fox) is well and looking good at the 'Bout Time at The River. Thanks for the fun Sunday, Mildred.

David Ross of Sydney, Australia and Chris Muss, former Gangway bartender, will celebrate their wedding at the Gangway before departing to Sydney to live in happy bliss.



Candidates for Emperor and Empress (l. to r.) Tina Tanner, Rick Manning, Lily Street, Patrick McGonigle, and Tatiana (Photo: PhotoGraphics/Darlene)

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B.A.R. PEOPLE & PERSONALS

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Safe solo. All types: BB (nonsex pose), + average guys w/hot trip; bikers/masters/pro-models. Legit. We pay. Send returnable pic/stats/phone: Palm Drive Video/PO 3653/SF/94119 E8

T'ai Chi classes 885-1113 E8

Cloverdale 707-894-4623 E8

People

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SOUTH CITY BOYS

Let's Get Together Russ 878-9642 E7

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Amateur Photographer Seeks Young Classically Trained Danseur For Strictly Private Fotos - Some Nude. Top \$\$\$ Paid - Leave Message 665-5746 DAVID

People

PLAYROOM

2 hot guys want to rent your fully-equipped playroom. 3-ways possible. Call Joe 626-4241. E6

Deep Throat for masc well hung black men. 552-1358. E6

MASTER/SLAVE

Master has slave to share with other hot tops or guys who fit in the middle. M is 29, 6'3", 185. S is 35, 5'10", 180. Send photo and phn. P.O. Box 640688, SF 94164 E6

S.F. LOVERS SEEK

Dungeon/Playroom to Rent in city or nearby. Reply w/ phone - Occupant, Suite 163, 2261 Market St., SF 94114-1693 E6

Correction

Slaves (only) Toys, Chains, more. The Col. 467-5128 E8

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Theatre presents: The Magic Arc "Convert Stress to Power" 673-3462 E9

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Mabuhay!

Gdlkg, GBM, 35 5'11", 168#, must., prof., into phys. fitness, art lover, sks. hlth con., easy going, sincere Asian friends. Your pic. gets mine. Write: Boxholder, PO Box 880608, San Francisco, CA 94188 E8

Musc BB stud to play with same Mike 759-6575 E8

People

Serious oral service given or received. Call 552-9427. No \$, j/o or games. Castro loc. E7

PWA'S

diagnosed 6 mo. or longer are needed to participate in a scientific study to learn more about what effect AIDS has on sexual expression, needs and feelings. Participation will include completion of a one-time-only confidential interview. For further information, leave name and number: 863-8834. E7

GWM, 40, masc, vers, bottom, seeks masc chubby guy for fun/friendship. Orientals welcome. Send photo 495 Ellis St., #563, SF, CA 94102 E7

Daly City gays get it on porn party, jack-off, one on one. Box 31702, SF 94131 E7

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Hot Male Conference Line !!!FREE!!!

From San Francisco call 362-1705 or if busy call -----976-1221 a charge of \$1.75 applies + toll charge if any E7

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Hello Michael Remember Land's End in Jan? Sorry & Gentle Caresses Ludwig E6

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Hdnsmc, yng GWM/BB wants your rod in his bod. Safe, horny, vers. All ages/races. Clay 626-8913 E6

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FF TOP OR BT AND

oral 6ft bl 180 38 408-371-5824 E6

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me know someone cares and I'm
not alone. Write R L Joseph, C/O
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Leo, remember tonight it's your
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yours at the Endup's Buns Con-
test, 10pm. See you there. Peter E6

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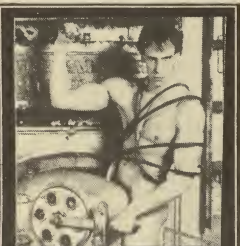
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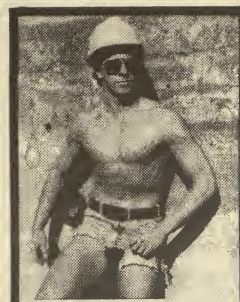
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Relax with a deep, sensual mas-
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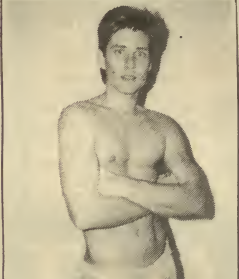
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tool with big, shaved low
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31, hot and extremely
handsome, big nipples...
When you want the best.

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28, smooth, 5'7", 135, gdlkng
90-wkdy; 80-wkends, out
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2 great times
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21 yr old boy blind blue smooth 9"
play room and toys call Skip
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Hungry Hairy Italian Hunk
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Clean Shaven, Sexy, Hung
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HOT YOUNG STUD, 22

★ HUGE THICK MEAT ★

5'11", 155, CLEAN CUT

BLUE EYES, LEAN & HARD

VERY GOOD LOOKING

Southern Boy

★ GUARANTEED 9½" ★

MIKE 530-1941

—24 HOURS—

Lean, Lithe, Elegant, Strong
SLEEK MUSCLE DANCER
821-2351 Athletic, Hot, \$75 E7

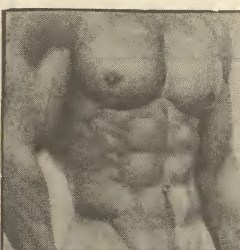
HOT JOCK

Full Equip GM RM
Light to Heavy
FF WS SM Leather
Bondage!
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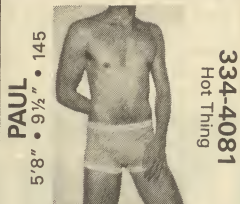
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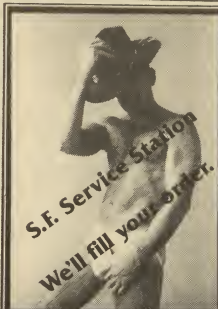
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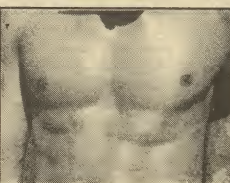
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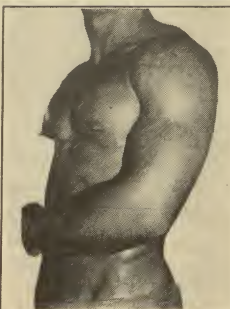
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Heart To Art

More than half a dozen top entertainers have agreed to perform at a benefit for Coming Home Hospice Wednesday, Feb. 11, at Club 9.

Already on the bill for the show are comics Suzy Berger and Tom Ammann. Music for the evening will be provided by Voice Farm, Ms. Kitty & Cycle Soul Blues, Beatnik Beach, and The Flips. Patrick Toner will be MC for the evening, assisted by Ms. Kitty Baudoin.

The benefit, called Heart to Art, will begin at 8 p.m. Tickets are \$10 and available at all Headlines outlets. A limited number of tickets may be available at the door.

Also on the bill are a collection of unintentionally funny '40s, '50s, and '60s film clips from the collections of Craig Baldwin and Padric McLaughlin. The sometimes campy, sometimes surreal films are cinema time capsules, depicting social mores, lifestyles, and clothing styles that often seem absurd when viewed from an '80s perspective.

Valentine's With GLOE

Operation Concern's Gay and Lesbian Outreach to Elders is proud to present its annual Valentine's Day Party Sunday, Feb. 8, from 1 to 4 p.m. at Francis of Assisi at 145 Guerrero. Donation is \$3 which will go to the GLOE Senior Activity Center Fund.

Comedian Danny Williams will star in the early afternoon festivities. Popular singers Janny (Tallulah) MacHarg and Mikio Hirato will also star. Romeo L'Heureux will be Master of Ceremonies.

There will be all kinds of prizes for lucky ticket holders. Lunch at the Castro Gardens, a gay Freedom Flag from the Flag Store on Polk Street, and hundreds of dollars of gift certificates from Andy Cramer's Headlines.

You can make your own valentine at the party and give it to the one you love. You don't have to be an older person to come to the party. Everyone is welcome. GLOE is part of Operation Concern and it is funded by the Commission on Aging. For more information call Elaine or George at 626-7000.

Needleman

The Edge of Madness Productions announces the first weekend of Needlemania for 1987, Friday Feb. 6 through Sunday Feb. 8.

The weekend starts with a play party, Friday Feb. 6, for pierced and tattooed men and women into decorated bodies, S/M, play piercing, radical safe sex, and more. The party, in a private home, will provide an imaginative play space, a tobacco-free environment and will cost \$10 per person. Doors will be open between 9 and 10 p.m. Call Mark at 621-6294 for information.

Saturday, Feb. 7, Mr. S., 227 7th St., will sponsor a piercing clinic from noon to 5 p.m. Jim Ward from Gauntlet, L.A. will do permanent piercings. Call Robert, 863-7764, for an appointment. Sunday, Feb. 8, Jim Ward will continue to do permanent piercings in a private home, from 2 to 8 p.m. Call Mark, 621-6294, for information. Proper hygiene will be strictly observed and privacy will be provided. Jewelry and the Piercing Fans International Quarterly (PFIQ) will be available at both clinics.

BOWLING

JAPANTOWN BOWL COMMUNITY LEAGUES BOWLING Team Standings and Personal Achievements

SUNDAY RENO LEAGUE (Week 16 of 30 - as of 1/25/87)			12. Ball Busters			29½	30½
1. Sassy	4	0	13. GAG (Get A Grippers)	28½	31½		
2. Fishes And Crab	4	0	14. S'rity Girls From Hell	26½	33½		
3. Tidy Bowlers	4	0	15. Lois Lanes	26	34		
4. Strike Force	4	0	16. "Big Bang Theory"	25	35		
5. Eastbay Bobcats	3	1	17. Hopeful Five	25	35		
6. Mary's Boys	3	1	18. Easy Marks	24	36		
7. Strange Interlude	3	1	19. Old Crows	21½	38½		
8. Alley Cats	3	1	20. Cheerleaders	20½	39½		
9. Jerry's Kids	3	1	High Scratch Game				
10. Imposters	3	1	Peter Abinanti (Big Bang Thry)	257			
11. Beauties And Beast	3	1	Sam Coco (Hammerjacks)	254			
12. Dude Theatre	1	3	John Gwinn (Lucky Strikes)	240			
13. Pilsner	1	3	Sue Hovda (Old Crows)	207			
14. Hot Slots	1	3	High Scratch Series				
15. Royalty & Versatiles	1	3	John Gwinn (Lucky Strikes)	621			
16. Boobs And Buns	1	3	Peter Abinanti (Big Bang Thry)	609			
17. Hard Rock	1	3	Sam Coco (Hammerjacks)	597			
18. PG Gutter Girls	0	4	Lillian Johnson (Old Crows)	513			
19. Hodge Podge	0	4	WEDNESDAY COMMUNITY LEAGUE (Week 13 of 30 - as of 1/21/87)				
20. Spare Us	0	4	1. Not Always Smart	36½	15½		
21. Diner Dogs	0	4	2. New Ballers	34	18		
22. Crowd Pleasers	0	4	3. Ginger-Snaps	33½	18½		

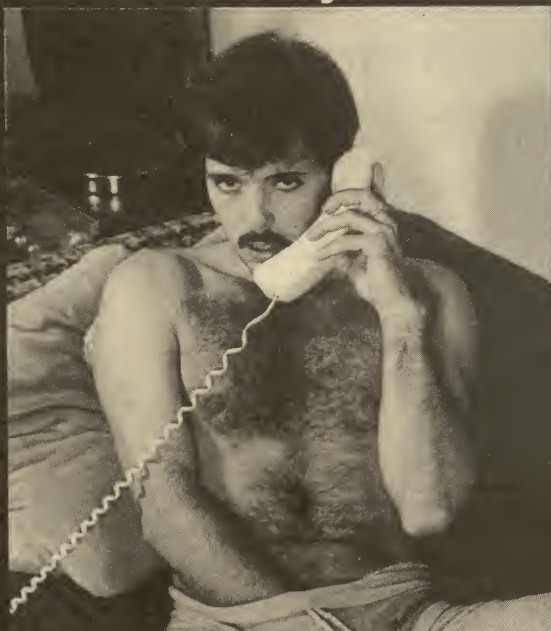
HAWAII VACATION LEAGUE (Week 32 of 40 - as of 1/23/87)			4. Hob Nob & Company			33	19
1. Diamond Head	30	18	5. Brand X	31½	20½		
2. Wicked Wahines	30	18	6. Rolo's	31	21		
3. Cookies N' Creme	28	20	7. Giraffe	30	22		
4. The Eruptions	22	22	8. High Wired	29½	22½		
5. Lackanookie	20	20	9. Play With It, Ltd.	29	23		
6. Oahu Lei U	19	29	10. Lois Laners	29	19		
7. Mane Islanders	15	21	11. E Z Pick Up	28	24		
8. Capricorn I	14	30	12. Mix-Ups	27	25		

MONDAY COMMUNITY LEAGUE (Week 16 of 30 - as of 1/26/87)			12. Mix-Ups	27	25
			13. Starlettes <th>27</th> <th>25</th>	27	25
			14. Kokpit Dynasty <th>26½</th> <th>25½</th>	26½	25½
			15. Ali Katz <th>26</th> <th>26</th>	26	26
1. Play With It, Ltd.	4	0	16. Gutter Girls <th>26</th> <th>26</th>	26	26
2. Bowling Bags	4	0	17. Male Image <th>25½</th> <th>26½</th>	25½	26½
3. After Everyone! D-J	3	1	18. Just Us Gurls <th>25</th> <th>27</th>	25	27
4. Liquid Experience	3	1	19. Epic Flyers <th>24</th> <th>28</th>	24	28
5. Damaged Goods Too	3	1	20. Bow K <th>22</th> <th>30</th>	22	30
6. Damaged Goods	3	1	21. Vera's Vinyl <th>22</th> <th>30</th>	22	30
7. Fore Strikes	3	1	22. Pockettes <th>22</th> <th>22</th>	22	22
8. Foote Plumbing	3	1	23. El Rio Tartarugas I <th>21½</th> <th>30½</th>	21½	30½
9. Rawhide	2	2	24. Plus Five <th>21½</th> <th>30½</th>	21½	30½
10. Bow K	2	2	25. My Guys <th>21</th> <th>31</th>	21	31
11. The Producers	1	3	26. The Wrappers <th>16</th> <th>36</th>	16	36
12. CS Low Hangers	1	3	27. Mother Nature <th>14</th> <th>38</th>	14	38
13. Pacific Coast Glass	1	3	28. White Swallow <th>4</th> <th>44</th>	4	44
14. Ron's Hardwoods	1	3	THURSDAY COMMUNITY LEAGUE (Week 13 of 30 - as of 1/22/87)		
15. El Rio Tartarugas	1	3	1. Stallion	33½	18½
16. Alvin's	0	4	2. Pndlm Mon Night CL	33	19
17. Good Time Keglers	0	4	3. Pendulum	32	20

14. Ron's Hardwoods	1	3	THURSDAY			
15. El Rio Tarantulas	1	3	COMMUNITY LEAGUE			
16. Alvin's	1	3	(Week 13 of 30 - as of 1/22/87)			
17. Good Time Kegels	0	4				
18. Do We Care?	0	4				
			1. Stallion	33½	18½	
			2. Pndm Mon Night CL	33	19	
			3. Pendulum	32	20	
			4. Hunks	29	23	
TUESDAY			5. Twin Peaks	29	23	
COMMUNITY LEAGUE			6. Geri's Boys	29	23	
(Week 15 of 30 - as of 1/20/87)			7. Old Rick's Gold Rm	28	24	
			8. Tattoos Too	26	26	
			9. Tartans	25½	26½	
			10. Geri's Girls	25½	26½	
1. Meatballs II			11. Pendulum #1	23½	25	
2. Split Sisters			12. Pendulum People	22½	29½	
3. Swaying Palms			13. Hob Nob	21	31	
4. The 69 Club			14. Sophie's Choice	19	33	
5. Lucky Strikes			15. Pilsner Penguins	13	35	
6. Hammerjacks			16. Gallion	13	31	
7. Kimo's Kows			Compiled by Jerry B. De Young			
8. Deadbabies						
9. Pin Busters						
10. Guttertrash						
11. Chez M'let Bowl'ttes						

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Poetry and Well-Being

AIDS has devastated the San Francisco art scene. Many talented artists have died. In response to this crisis, Artists for Community Life has been sponsoring free art workshops for people with AIDS.

Sunday, Feb. 8, at 4 p.m., Artists for Community Life will present Poetry and Well-being, a Valentine poetry reading to benefit the group's art workshops. Merle Woo, Juan Pablo Gutierrez, and six other poets will read from their works at Intersection for the Arts, 766 Valencia St., in San Francisco. A \$7 donation is requested.

Burlesque Show to Benefit International Ms. Leather

A burlesque show, by and for women, will be held at 9 p.m., Tuesday, Feb. 10, at the Baybrick Inn, 1190 Folsom (at 8th). Returning after a year of retirement will be Tattoo Blue, doing several erotic dances. Other performers for the night will be Pepper, Rock 'n' Roll Ramona, and Rainbow. Admission will be \$5 at the door. Tickets, t-shirts, and posters for the 1st Annual International contest will be available at this event.

Proceeds from this event will benefit the 1st Annual International Ms. Leather contest.

Heymont

(Continued from page 30)

ture I wondered how well Americans would relate to them.

I shouldn't have been so apprehensive, for the separation of classes endemic to British society which continues to seem so deliciously quaint to American audiences, makes this story of true love conquering the breach between blue blood and cockney crudeness the perfect show for matinee theater parties. However, upon seeing the Broadway production, I was more than a little bit amused to see how the show had been "Americanized."

Instead of the plump and pasty-faced dancers I saw in London, the tanned and trim GQ types in New York looked as if they had just arrived from an aerobics class. Maryann Plunkett's Sally was more aggressive than Su Pollard's and Nick Ulett's Gerald more of an aristocratic caricature. The dramatic energy of Jane Connell's Duchess and Timothy Jerome's Parchester was completely different from what I had seen in London. And the biggest difference, at least for me, lay in the magnificent performance by the show's original star, Robert Lindsay, as the hero, Bill Snibson.

The team of Lindsay and Plunkett gives *Me and My Girl* an entirely different feeling from what I got from watching Enn Reitel and Su Pollard's performances in London, and the slick physical production — as well as Noel Gay's genuinely hummable tunes — have made this show one of Broadway's biggest hits in recent years. While *Me and My Girl* is as light-hearted a piece of fluff as one could hope to find in the musical theater — and I'd be the last person to begrudge the Broadway production its success — I think Broadway audiences are in for a bit of a shock later this month when *Les Miserables* opens in New York and offers theatergoers a musical with much meatier substance. ●

Campbell

(Continued from page 29)

players' finesse shone through.

How I wish I might hear the San Francisco Symphony repeat the heartrendingly beautiful *Agadio of the Sixth* in one of the great auditoriums of Europe! Blomstedt's Brahms and Bruckner, Stravinsky, Prokofiev, and our own Composer-in-Residence, Charles Wuorinen, will show the French, English, Italian, German, and Swiss music world just how far the provincial American

Wein und Liebe

The Temescal Gay Men's Chorus will host a gala celebration on Valentine's Day, Feb. 14, in the Veteran's Memorial Building Green Room, Van Ness and McAllister, San Francisco, from 8 p.m. to 11 p.m. Guest artists include Leola Jiles, who won the Golden Gate Award for best new cabaret singer in 1986; Molly Breen of the Vocal Minority; Dell Madrell and Mercy Oria; and John Rouse as special guest soloist with the Chorus. The concert will benefit the AIDS Project of the East Bay and the Temescal Arts Association.

The Temescal Gay Men's Chorus and its offspring, the Octet, will perform a set of love songs exploring the many moods of love contained in the theme "Wein und Liebe" (Wine and Love) with solos by John Rouse on Debussy's "Salut Printemps" and the Irish folk ballad "Dan-

Ballet

(Continued from page 30)

ity in dancing.

In the adagio movement Kudelka expands on the idea of the double pas de deux by adding a third, fourth, and fifth couple in gradual succession, linking and massing them together using the neoclassical devices most often used to link and mass individual dancers. A sixth couple finally joins, and the resulting configurations of bodies are often unwieldy for the dancers and visually taxing to watch. Some of Kudelka's noblest expressions were marred by this overpopulation, yet I admire his courage in attempting something I've never even thought of before.

'One of the fringe benefits of "foreign" commissions is their ability to make familiar dancers look new.'

Victoria Morgan begins the allegro movement with a solo of slackening tension, at first quick and bright, then alternately slow and controlled. All the while a slow upstage procession traverses the stage, from which dancers emerge and return throughout the movement. Here Kudelka's excessiveness nearly gets out of hand, spinning out bits of dance ideas then reeling them back almost before they've taken shape.

Dreams of Harmony represents a brave attempt to expand ballet's possibilities within a familiar traditional structure. If some of his experiments had not failed, we might never have noticed that they were experiments. William Forsythe, director of the Frankfurt Ballet and a freelance choreographer in demand, presented us with a high-tech ballet

made in an entirely different way, specifying many aspects of the performance beyond the choreography.

Forsythe tersely stated that "New Sleep is a pretext for a series of short dances, accompanying a narrative of a family engaged in research in the applied sciences. Unfortunately, their progress in this research is hindered by an insufficient grasp of certain basic principles." What this means on stage is that a sort of skit is being enacted at the same time as the dancing, an unusual occurrence in itself. But the environment Forsythe has created includes many unusual phenomena. His stunning lighting design, requiring the purchase of some \$30,000 worth of European lighting equipment, bathes the action (and, occasionally, off-stage parts of the Opera House) in peculiar levels of light and darkness; at one point the dancers perform in shadow while bright light from the wingspace spills onto the stage. Added to this environment is an electronic musical score ideal for science fiction.

Forsythe's choreography is punchy, sometimes violent, and if it were not for the campy mini-drama of the family's foolish research, the ballet might be almost frightening. But the new-wave comedy sets up a tension that is resolved by the dancing; in this context the dancers appear to be a higher life form. The movement motifs include for the women an absolutely wonderful walk on pointe that moves forward two steps then dips zanily backward, an action begun by Tracy Kai-Maier at the start of her tour-de-force solo and eventually taken up by all the women in the cast. Forsythe has also made startling pas de deux, for Maier and Simon Dow and for



Christopher Boatwright, et al, in *New Sleep* (Photo: M. Sohl)

Joanna Berman and Marc Spradling, and exciting male dancing in solos for Christopher Boatwright and Christopher Stowell.

New choreographers come to the company without the familial preconceptions that are sometimes unconscious in in-house choreographers; one of the fringe benefits of "foreign" commissions is their ability to make familiar dancers look new. Maier, Berman, Boatwright, and Stowell are reliable performers whose stage personalities have been

given a wonderful new facet; Maier and Berman look like fearless sisters whose kinetic wisdom exposes the folly around them. The entire cast tore into this work with an eagerness and joy that infected the audience, including some people who might have been shocked enough to walk out if they hadn't been so fascinated so soon. *New Sleep* may prove to be the most adventurous new ballet to be set on an American ballet company in many years. Don't miss it. ●

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Lucie

(Continued from page 29)

A voice from the past was also heard at the Native American benefit, Jesse Colin Young. Older, wiser, and just a tad rough around the edges, Jesse is still a beautiful man with an exciting guitar style. His songs, both old and new, seem to be autobiographical, and he puts a lot of feeling into these stories from his own life.

The set closed with Jesse singing "Get Together," the giant hit that his old band, The Youngbloods, enjoyed back in the '60s. The audience stood and sang along, and Jesse Colin Young left the stage amidst thunderous applause.

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Little Richard
Warner Bros.

Little Richard seems to be playing both sides of the fence. Still the self-proclaimed king of rock & roll, he's recording once again, and appearing in hit movies like *Down & Out in Beverly Hills* (a scene-stealing role). He's also become a born-again Christian. Of late he's been appearing on Christian TV shows, renouncing his "former" homosexual lifestyle. Praise the Lord! (Come on, Richard, God loves everyone.)

Christianity is the recurring theme of Richard's first LP in many years. It opens with a gospel/rock number called "Great Gosh Almighty," which sounds an awful lot like his '50s hit, "Good Golly, Miss Molly." He moves on to a ballad, "Someone's Coming," a love song to Jesus. All the other cuts on the album are likewise stories that Pat Robertson loves to tell.

Lifetime Friend is being marketed as a standard rock album, which it is not. Richard's voice and piano playing are in top form, and most of the album

sounds good on the surface. But knowing how Little Richard has come to feel about gays makes *Lifetime Friend* an album to avoid. He's no friend to us.

★ ★ ★

We do have friends in Dionne Warwick and Diana Ross. At the recent American Music Awards, Diana announced that all proceeds from the hit Dionne Warwick song, "That's What Friends Are For," are going to AIDS research. Dionne and Diana were joined onstage by Aretha Franklin, Whitney Houston, and other notables to sing this lovely ballad.

It's a good song, and it supports a most worthy cause, so run out and get *That's What Friends Are For*, the album by Dionne Warwick.

★ ★ ★

Jan. 21 I caught a new singer, Aaron Mayer, in concert at the Baybrick.

Aaron has been in San Francisco for the past several months, transplanted from his native Chicago. His music can best be described as art/folk/rock. At the Baybrick he performed many of his own compositions, as well as a few songs by Joan Armatrading and Steve Goodman.

Aaron is a fine guitarist and lyricist, and has a pleasant voice to boot. Keep an eye out for his future Bay Area appearances. He's worth watching. ●

Historians See Bent

The San Francisco Bay Area Gay and Lesbian Historical Society will present a benefit performance of Martin Sherman's powerful play *Bent* (about the Nazi treatment of gays in World War II) Friday, Feb. 13, at 8 p.m. at the San Francisco Repertory Theatre, 4147 19th St., S.F. Cost is \$15 per seat. Send a check to S.F.B.A.G.L.H.S., Box 42126, S.F. 94142. For further information call 864-2074. ●

Marcus

(Continued from page 33)

hear of "dish dashed"? Harrumph and double harrumph. We still love you, Walt!

If you see Chris Puccinelli walking around with a quizzical look on her face, it's because she has accumulated a bowling ball bag full of dildoes and has no possible use for them! Explains the Pooch: "Every time there's an auction, Emperor V Hector buys me a dildo and I can't understand why!" Does Hector know something the rest of us don't know? Does the Pooch have tendencies none of the rest of us can detect? Stay tuned.

Hey, leather ladies! Equal treatment time! If you don't win in any of the local contests to be in Intl. Ms. Leather in March, you can always go to Sacramento like one of our men did and perhaps, perchance represent that city in the biggie! They'll be holding competition every Wednesday in Feb. and March to pick finalists at the Blue Moon bar. The competition begins at 2300 hours each week, so don't let local judges edge you out. Say hi to Blue Moon owner Morgan for me too! And don't let them hang a dizzy title like "Hello March Hello" on you! It just doesn't sound good on video, does it, Herbella?

Hey, gotta go, boys and girls. Stay cool. Be nice. Support all charities and keep your legs crossed. Until next time then remember: No wise man ever wishes to be younger! ●

Karl's Calendar

Compiled by Diedre

THURSDAY 2/5

Emperor Candidate Patrick Party, Kimo's, 8 p.m., show, hostess Sissy Spaceout.

Emperor Candidate Rick Manning Party, Amelia's, 8-11 p.m., hosts Rick Brattin and Autumn Courtney.

Empress Candidate Tatiana Party, Village, 8 p.m.

FRIDAY 2/6

All Candidate Night, Kokpit, 8 p.m.

Miss \$1.98 Beauty Pageant, Showfolks of America Hall, 827 Hyde St., 8 p.m., MC Danny Williams, sponsored by Grand Ducal Council, benefit AIDS lobbyists in Washington, D.C., \$5 donation.

SATURDAY 2/7

Empress Candidate Lily Street Party, Men's Room, 2-5 p.m.

California Eagles M/C Third Anniversary Party, S.F. Eagle patio, 5-8 p.m., buffet and entertainment, admittance with invitation or with club colors only.

Mr. and Miss Kupid Contest, Kokpit, 8 p.m.

Pat Montclair and Shannon Bazzaz '87 Show, Kimo's, showtimes 10 p.m. and 12 a.m.



Chuck Solomon (l.) with Kris Gannon and Arthur Morris

(Photo: Rink)

Chuck

(Continued from page 26)

were a family unit, and they bought their house on Waller Street in 1976.

"We considered ourselves socialists," Larry told me, "and we ran our house according to our politics. Things were done according to consensus. We held a Family Meeting each week to handle both business and personal relationships, and we pooled all our money. Everybody had an allowance, so we each had the same amount in our pocket. If anybody had a larger purchase to make, we discussed it at Family Meeting. I remember one controversy that raged for a long time—whether or not we should have a dishwasher!"

There were more serious problems, but in typical fashion they only brought the group closer together. Following the suicide attempt of Larry's lover, the entire family took group counseling, just as they had earlier taken a formal class called "Criticism/Self-Criticism," to help in Family Meeting and communal problem solving.

They shared the responsibilities of raising Lily, too. Her natural father didn't share the communal vision, and moved to Marin in 1977. While Sylvia remained the primary person for Lily, her child care and life decisions were handled along with everyone else's at Family Meetings. Chuck and Larry were Lily's weekday fathers, and they sang her lullabies of Broadway at bedtime.

"She probably knows more show tunes than any other kid in San Francisco," Larry quipped, and remembered "an especially fatherly period" when the daughter of Chuck's then-lover was added to the group.

There were many ties to bind them beside blood. Raising Lily was perhaps most important, but their political activity was a close second. For a long time this was focused on the International Hotel in Chinatown. Chuck trained the family in first aid, security, and the Hotel's background while he and Ellen served on the I Hotel security team. The family also owned 120 acres of land in Washington state, where they built a geodesic dome,

planted trees, and raised food.

Personal and vocational differences were faced, and political activity dropped off. Larry moved out after his lover died in 1981, and Ellen went to New York for three years to become a Nurse Practitioner. Lily is now 15; the family had endured for 11 years until Chuck's death. Important in that longevity was the attitude of others, which validated the family's self-image.

"All of our families considered this part of their family," Larry said. "Keeping it together for so long was wonderful. It taught us a lot about cooperation and respect, about giving and taking criticism, and it made us very aware of life decisions, which we figured out as a group."

It was a group that was all-important to Chuck Solomon, for his desire to have a family, to nurture and sustain it, was great. The family group created by these people is another facet of Chuck we can remember and admire, and like the wisdom and courage which are demonstrated in *Coming of Age*, the tale of Chuck's family should be known and emulated. He'd like that. ●

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NOTICE OF PETITION AND PETITION TO
ESTABLISH STANDING AS NEWSPAPER OF
GENERAL CIRCULATION
FILE NUMBER 869211
(Government Code 60201)

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF
CALIFORNIA IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN
FRANCISCO

In re:
BENRO ENTERPRISES, INC., dba
THE BAY AREA REPORTER, Petitioner

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that on February 18,
1987, at 9:30 a.m. in Department 5 of the above-
entitled court, located at City Hall, 4th Floor, 400
Van Ness Avenue, San Francisco, California, BENRO
ENTERPRISES, INC. dba THE BAY AREA REPORTER
intends to apply for an order declaring THE BAY
AREA REPORTER to be a newspaper of general cir-
culation. This petition is based on the following facts:

1. THE BAY AREA REPORTER is published for
the dissemination of local news and intelligence of
a general character.

2. THE BAY AREA REPORTER has a bonafide
subscription list of paying subscribers.

3. THE BAY AREA REPORTER has been "es-
tablished," as defined in Government Code § 6008,
in that it has been in existence under the name Bay
Area Reporter for more than three years preceding
the date of this petition.

4. THE BAY AREA REPORTER has been "pub-
lished," as defined in Government Code § 6008,
in that it has been issued from the place where it is
printed and sold to or circulated among the people
and its subscribers at regular intervals of not less
than weekly in the City and County of San Francis-
co for more than three years preceding the date of
this petition.

5. THE BAY AREA REPORTER has a substantial
distribution to paid subscribers in the City and Coun-
ty of San Francisco.

6. THE BAY AREA REPORTER has maintained
a minimum coverage of local news and intelligence
of a general character of not less than 25% of its
total inches during each of the three years prior to
this petition.

7. THE BAY AREA REPORTER has only one prin-
cipal office of publication and that office is located
at 1528 15th Street, in the City and County of San
Francisco.

This petition will be published pursuant to Gov-
ernment Code § 6062 both in THE BAY AREA REP-
ORTER and in the San Francisco Beacon and proof
of publication shall be filed with the County Clerk
prior to the date set for hearing the petition.

Dated: January 5, 1987
ROBERT ROSS, President and
Publisher of THE BAY AREA REPORTER

Paul H. Malbostad
Law Offices of Thomas E. Horn
379 Hayes Street
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Attorneys for Petitioner
Publication dates: February 5 and February 12, 1987

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Hauling, etc. Big PU Truck.
★ \$30 min. Bill 441-1054 ★ E10

Kelly's Hauling Service
Large Truck/Experienced Men
861-2216 • 337-9744

Small Jobs - roommate relocation
small truck fast friendly and
CHEAP-\$15 Scott pager
957-7707 E6

Upkeep & Renovation

KITCHEN/BATHS/TILE
COMPLETE REMODEL/REPAIR
Competent - Reasonable
GARY 863-5064



Hutchins Construction
General Contractor
861-5439

ELECTRICAL CONTRACTOR

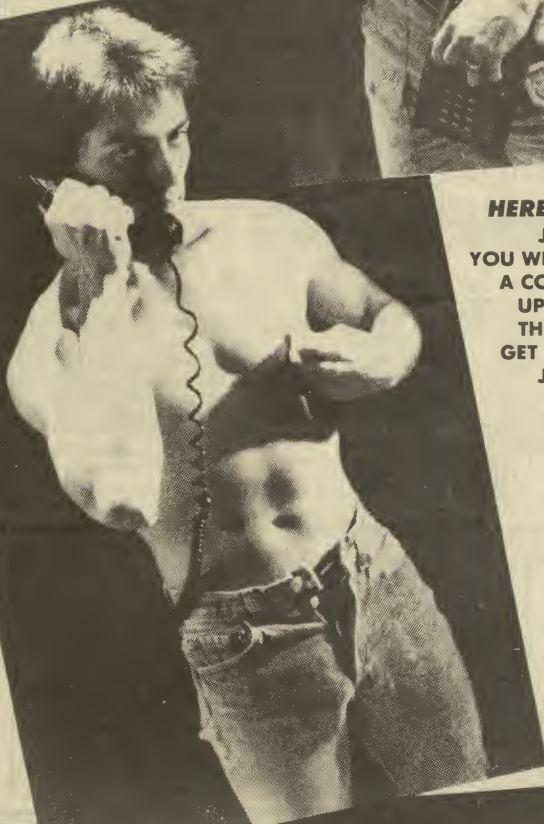
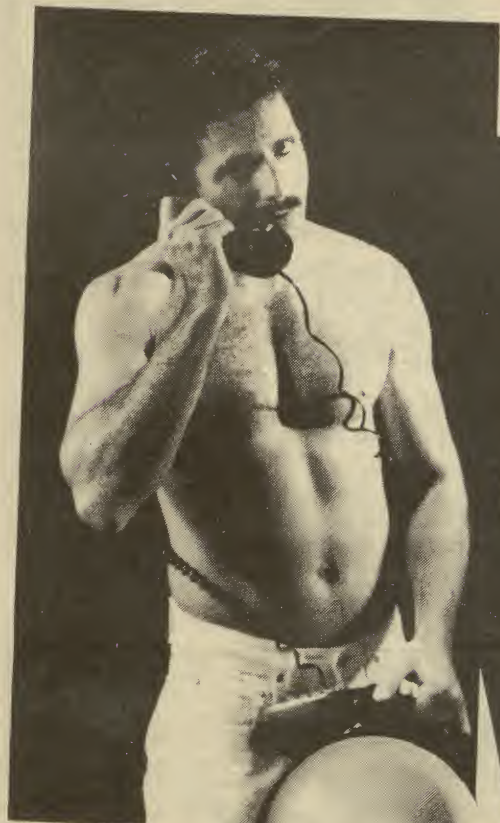
■ SERVICE CALL WORK
■ FAST RESPONSE
■ EMERGENCY REPAIRS
■ ON-TIME. QUALITY WORK

Cristopher Electric
282-3003 S.F.
547-6669 E.BAY

TILEMAN
Ceramic Tile Work, Small Jobs,
Free Est. Call 626-3131, ext. 300 E7


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24 HOUR LIVE ACTION NETWORK



HERE'S HOW IT WORKS

JUST DIAL 976-8500...
YOU WILL BE CONNECTED TO
A CONFERENCE LINE WITH
UP TO FIVE OTHER MEN.
THEN IT'S UP TO YOU —
GET INTO THE ACTION OR
JUST LISTEN 'TILL YOU
GET IN THE MOOD.



3,000 MEN

ARE WAITING FOR YOUR CALL-
NIGHT AND DAY
WITH MAN-TALK ON THEIR MINDS!

**NOT A RECORDING
NO ACTORS**

DIAL (415) 976-8500

You must be 18 or over to call this number.
The Live Action Network provides only an
automated telephone service. The subject matter of conversations, exchange of
personal information, or personal meetings are solely at the discretion of the caller
and the Live Action Network will accept no responsibility. A \$2.00 charge will be
billed to your telephone.